FOREST AND STREAM.

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THE LORD AND THE DEED.

THE FOREST AND STREAM is, we believe, the only paper in the world which has been consistent in its estimate of Lord Dunraven since his peculiar and we hope exceptional character first began to disclose itself in the beginning of his brief and not over-brilliant yachting career. What he is to-day he was a year ago, when he forced the Squadron to indorse his third challenge for the America's Cup; three years ago, when he was haggling and dickering with the Cup committee of the year for the match of 1893; and seven years ago when he wasted a season in a like fruitless negotiation. As for the American papers, it is barely one short twelvemonth since they were praising as broad, generous sportsmanship the same selfishness, obstinacy and obtuseness which they are roundly condemning to-day. The only difference is that while then these lordly qualities were being employed in the ignoble task of inducing the Royal Yacht Squadron to stultify itself and eat its own words for the benefit of the New York Yacht Club, now they are employed in seeking some excuse, however paltry, for a second ignominious defeat. As long as Lord Dunraven was willing to condone the illegal alteration of trust conditions, to use the powerful influence he once possessed against the interests alike of fair play and of British yachting, and to subordinate all matters of principle to his own selfish interests, he was, to American critics, brave, generous, noble and an ideal sportsman. To us his treatment of American yachtsmen last summer and fall appears very little worse than his treatment of his fellow yachtsmen a few months previously; the sole consideration in each case has been himself alone.

We have before pointed out the exact nature of what may deservedly be termed the "deal" by which the last match, to say nothing of that of 1893, was arranged between Lord Dunraven and the New York Y. C. At the time that Wyndham Thomas Wyndham Quin, Earl of Dunraven and Mount Earl, abandoned in a pique a political career and for the first time interested himself in yacht racing, the whole yachting world was agitated over the recent illegal and unfair alteration of the terms of trust of the America's Cup; this alteration being condemned alike by British yachtsmen and by many American yachtsmen both within and without the New York Y. C. All international racing had ceased with the declaration of the Royal Yacht Squadron and other British clubs that they would never again challenge under conditions which they believed to be entirely illegal. Before the end of his first season as a yacht owner, Lord Dunraven had set his eyes upon the America's Cup, and to all appearances determined to win a name among British yachtsmen by possessing it at whatever possible cost. As the situation then was, no British yachtsman with any respect for himself or his compatriots could even look toward the Cup with an idea of challenging. Not only was the New York Y. C. as yet unprepared to grant such perfectly fair terms as it has since twice given to Lord Dunraven, but it absolutely refused to entertain any overtures for a match save upon the basis of a full and complete recognition by the challenger of the right of the club to do what it pleased with the America's Cup, and of the legality and fairness of what it had recently done. To the credit of British yachtsmen be it said, there was but one man in the United Kingdom, the Earl of Dunraven, who was so completely blind to the right and justice of the case as to agree to anything and everything that the New York Y. C. demanded, provided that the club in turn would give him a series of three out of five races on the open sea. Willing as he was from the first to barter principle for a mere temporary personal advantage, it was four years from the date of his first challenge before a match was finally made on terms that no one has ever been able to understand clearly; and the Valkyrie II.-Vigilant races of 1893 were sailed.

The only good that came of this match was the clearing up of a number of misunderstandings and contradictions for which Lord Dunraven was largely responsible, and the emphasizing more clearly of the exact issues and the mortifying position which any British club must assume in order to be allowed to race for the Cup. This, however, was of no importance to Lord Dunraven, but his misdirected efforts were renewed with such success that the proud and haughty Royal Yacht Squadron was brought to a most complete and ignoble surrender.

While as Americans, and with no special reverence for a yachting organization which does so much to retard and so little to advance the sport as the Squadron, we should perhaps rejoice at this; yet looking as we do at the fraudulent deed of 1887 as a national disgrace, we still view with regret that indorsement and acceptance of it, through various shifts and subterfuges on both sides, to which the Royal Yacht Squadron was forced through the personal efforts of Lord Dunraven.

We need not recall in detail the various incidents of his long struggle for the Cup—how in 1889 he professed a most disinterested desire to race Valkyrie I. against American yachts for a nominal prize or no prize at all, and yet refused to cross and race for the 70ft. cup specially offered by Gen. Paine; or how, in the following year, he refused the challenge made through Mr. Stephen Peabody for a series of international races with Titania, Katrina and Shamrock, of Valkyrie's class; or of his flat and positive statement that he would never challenge for the Cup under the terms of the new deed; the only conclusion that can be drawn from his words and actions through a period of seven years is that he cared for the possession of the America's Cup and nothing else, and on no matter what ignoble terms.

Whatever sympathy we may feel for Mr. Iselin in the very unpleasant position in which he has been placed for the past three months does not extend to the New York Y. C. No one knew better than the men who made the new deed of gift, and who have since been mainly in control of all negotiations for Cup matches, that the better class of British yachtsmen—such men as Sutton and Henn and of the older generation that raced such yachts as Kreimhilda, Egeria, Miranda, Formosa, Vanduara, Iona, Bloodhound and Cetonia—would never again challenge for the Cup; and no one was quicker to recognize the true character of the vain and ambitious tyro who could so easily be bought to do their bidding. The deal was a fair and open one (of its kind); Lord Dunraven was to secure the recognition of the new deed from the Squadron, and in return he was to have the number of races, fair courses and other conditions which had thus far been denied to Sir Richard Sutton, Lieut. Henn and the Clyde syndicate.

On its part, the New York Y. C. has carried out its agreement to the letter. In spite of all talk about the collision in the second race and the crowding of the steamers, the matches of 1893 and 1895 will go down into yachting history as among the fairest ever sailed between two nations. In spite of this, for the unfortunate sequel the New York Y. C. has no one to blame but itself; had its actions from the first been fair, open and straightforward, it would never have been under the necessity of seeking the aid of one who was willing to betray his own friends to advance his private ends; nor would it have suffered the annoyance which this selfish, erratic and whimsical lord has inflicted on it since the early autumn.

And now a final word as to the New York Y. C.; taking matters bye and large, it has even in spite of this last trouble been peculiarly fortunate in the last few years. The worst mistake in the club's history was made on that night in the fall of 1887 when its evil advisers led it to disdain the challenge of Mr. Charles Sweet and to make sure of the undisturbed possession of the Cup by such a change of terms as should make a fair contest impossible. That two matches have been sailed since then is due solely to the assistance of Lord Dunraven, purchased in the manner we have stated. Through his aid the club has been able to face down and to force an unwilling but absolute retraction from the Royal Yacht Squadron, thus shutting off to a great extent all future objections against the legality of the new deed. The club is fortunate to-day in that it has triumphed over the proudest yachting organization in the world; and has finally asserted its right to do wrong and to perpetuate an unjust and illegal act. In one sense the club is fortunate because it has at length had its own way in spite of all opposition; and though it has had to make certain concessions to the cause of fair play, it has been able to restore the America's Cup to international competition. Such a triumph as this, however, in a bad cause, is in itself a disgrace; nor is the wrong of 1887 likely to be forgotten; long after Lord Dunraven has passed out of yachting and after the true circumstances of the foul and of his charges are accepted by yachtsmen, it will be remembered, to the discredit of the New York Y. C.

There never was a better time to end the whole nauseous episode of the new deed than with the disappearance from yachting of the only man who has raced under it; and with the many unpleasant experiences of the past ten years to warn it the New York Y. C. will be wise if it avails itself freely, and when under no possible pressure of compulsion, of the opportunity to rectify the mistake of 1887. The men who made it have long known, and admitted by their many efforts to misinterpret it, how bad the new deed is; the members of the club now know it, and the yachting world has always known it. While new challenges may come in time, we are just as firmly of the belief that there can never be a permanent resumption of fair international racing under it as we were three years since, when the final agreement on the Valkyrie II.-Vigilant matches was hailed by the club as the end of all controversy over the deed of gift. What we said then has twice come to pass—the two matches that have been sailed have each been followed by quarrels and ill-feeling.

There is no step that would do so much good for the New York Y. C. and for American yachting to-day as the reconsideration of the action of 1887 and the restoration of the original deed of gift under which the trust was created, with its "mutual agreement" clause in the foremost place; and, if deemed necessary, supplemented by such additional conditions as, without conflicting with the obvious intentions of the original donors, shall secure for all future races such generally fair conditions as have twice been given to the most unworthy of all Cup challengers.

NEW YORK FISH COMMISSION.

WE give elsewhere generous extracts from the first report submitted to the New York Legislature by the Fisheries, Game and Forest Commission. The document has added importance and demands more than the ordinary attention given to papers of its class, because it may fairly be accepted as furnishing a gauge of the new board, and as an indication of what we are to expect from it. Considered in this light the report is satisfactory and promising. It is written with intelligence, common sense and an evident grasp of the situation. It shows—and shows very clearly—that the Commissioners have set about their task in a businesslike way, and it contains the promise that they so intend to administer the affairs of their office.

SNAP SHOTS.

Didymus calls attention again to the Florida quail killing tourists who emulate the big scores of the butchers before them. Happily there is now a legal limit of quail killing; the law prescribes that no one shooter may take more than fifty birds in a day. That ought to satisfy any but the insensate destroyers, male and female, who have been wont to brag of their hundreds. We trust that there may be found at Tampa and other centers of quail killing activity people who will have the law of these score shooters.

Convicts and non-residents are joined together in a class by themselves in an excise measure now before the New York Legislature. And a very proper classification it is, if we are to accept all that the advocates of non-resident game laws tell us.

The Sportsman Tourist.

UNCLE LISHA'S OUTING.—XI.

The Canada Boat Departs.

In prompt fulfillment of the night's prophecies, the morning dawning dully through a thick veil of clouds brought a drizzle of rain. This fell with such a drowsy patter on the canvas roof that the inmates of the camp felt little inclination to bestir themselves till impelled to do so by hunger.

Then Sam and Antoine crept out and after inspecting the lowering sky set about building a fire and making other preparations for breakfast, though Uncle Lisha advised a cold bite in the shelter of the tent.

"No, sah," Antoine objected as he moved around the fire, quite regardless of the slow drizzle of rain except when the drip of an overhanging bough aroused a spiteful sputter of the pan wherein two split ducks were frying. "We'll a'n't goin' for discourage de inside of us wid col' victual w'en de rine comin' on de aoutside. Ah tol' you, if mans wan' have hees heart warm he'll gat for had hees stommack warm. Ah'll can' faght wort' four cen' 'fore Ah'll gat good breakfis' wen Ah'll was in Papineau war."

"Ner arter, nuther, I guess," Uncle Lisha commented, but Antoine took no notice of this imputation of a lack of valor.

"But w'en Ah gat good big hot breakfis' behin' mah gaun, den Ah tol' you, dey gat for ta' careful if dey a'n't wan' me for hurt it."

"Sho, Ann Twine! I cal'late," said Uncle Lisha in sentences interrupted by the labor of drawing on his boots, "'at it's a dum foolish business—ugh! I got tu grease these 'ere boots—a fillin' up wi' good victuals—m-m-mugh! They're stiffer'n sap troughs—afore a feller goes aout a-figbtin' an' run the resk on't bein' wasted s'posin' he gits killed. Then again, s'posin' a feller hed tu run, he'd stan' a better chance if he was light-loaded. There! you be on, an' ye don't come off ag'in till you're 'iled, if I hafter rub ye with a fat duck!"

"Ah, Onc' Lasha, you a'n't know not'ing 'baout war," cried Antoine, lifting the potato kettle off the fire and emptying the water from it. "Fetch de dauk in de coop, Sam. We'll can't sit aour table in de rine," and he swung the kettle over Uncle Lisha's imperiled legs to a place inside the tent and Sam bestowed the sizzling frying pan beside it.

Peering under his glasses, Uncle Lisha forked a potato on to his plate as he snorted contemptuously, "Honh! do' know nothin' 'baout wars! Why, you poor ig'n'ant infant, I was a sojerin' wi'in a mild o' here afore you was borned. Yes, sir, the Hawley place hain't a mild f'm here, where we was posted, a-waitin' for the British, an' abaout a mild furder is Fort Casin, where they come an' fit an' got licked tew. I'm a-goin' tu take Jozeff over there an' show it tu him some day. An' wa'n't I tu Plattsburgh? Sho, Ann Twine, your leetle Poppynew muss wa'n't the jab of a paigin' awl tu what we hed them times. Lord, if you c'ld ha' seen them ships arter they fit. The mas's an' sails an' riggin' all tore tu rags an' kin'lin' wood, an' the decks kivered wi' blood wus 'n a slotter haouse. An' the poor waounded critters, aour'n an' their'n. It wa'n't no putty sight tu look at. It made me praoud 'nough tu bust tu see the stars an' stripes a-flyin' over all them ships, but when I see them 'ere poor Britishers waounded an' dyin' far from hum an' their women folks, it took all the spite agin 'em clean aouten on me."

"You t'ink prob'ly dey heat too much breakfis', a'n't it, Onc' Lasha? So he can' run."

"I do' know haow 'twas wi' them, but we hedn't hed none tew much, I c'n tell ye," Uncle Lisha answered as he sawed laboriously on the thigh of a duck with a dull knife, and was reminded to remark, "I tell ye what it is, boys, it was a terrible good idee they useter hev when I was young, o' cuttin' up the' meat victuals intu maouthfuls 'fore it was put ontu the table, an' then let ev'b'dy fork for hisself aouten one dish. It saved lots o' time an' rastlin' wi' tough meat when folks was in a hurry tu git aout tu the' work."

"Ah'll a'n't want for chaup more as de meat for mahse'f, bah gosh," Antoine declared.

"The' useter be some tol'lable lively hustlin' tusslin' for ch'ice pieces," the old man continued, reminiscently. "Father useter tell of a neighbor o' his'n 'at said haow he'd broke his child'en's temper wi' maple sugar. One mornin' father happened in of an arrant, when they was eatin' the' breakfas', all a-fishin' the fried meat aouten one dish, an' the ol' man hed got him the best and biggest maou'ful in the hul lot ontu his fork, when one o' the boys up an' flipped it off an' hed his fork into 't an' into his own maouth with 't quicker 'n scat. Father 'lowed the maple sugar hed worked fust rate. Wal, I b'lieve I've hed enough for oncte. Ann Twine, be you a goin' tu eat all day?"

"Ah'll was been lis'lin' to you, Onc' Lasha," Antoine answered, settling himself to his work. "Naow Ah'll was goin' for heat. Dat was de bes' t'ing we can do w'en it was rine, 'cop' go feeshin'."

"An' I cal'late tu stick right by ye, Anntwine," said Joseph from behind a duck's wing that he was gnawing, holding it with both hands. "I hain't the kind er man tu desart a friend in no sech scrape, don't seem 's 'ough I was, not as I feel naow."

Uncle Lisha filled his pipe and went out to enjoy it by the fireside under shelter of his blue umbrella, and Sam, after providing a present supply of firewood with a few axestrokes, wandered out to the bluff overlooking the creek.

Through the windows of the woods, mullioned with gray trunks and curtained with gay branches, there could be gained narrow glimpses of the nearer marsh, tinted with many blended colors and dotted with green islands of button bush; then the broad channel, leaden gray under the sunless sky and drizzling rain, the dull expanse broken here and there by ducks reveling apart or in companies, enjoying the weather that set all the rest of the world a-moping.

Beyond was the further border of marsh and then the sheer wall of forest, making the horizon against the low sky that enveloped far mountains and nearer hills in common obscurity.

The yellow poplars and the scarlet pepperidges shone through the veil of rain as if yesterday's sunshine was still held in them to brighten to-day's somber monotony of gray.

Like outlooks on the lakeward side revealed only the dull expanse of gray water receding into the gray mist toward unseen shores, except where Garden Island loomed, blurred and undefined, between shrouded water and low sky, with one yellow-leafed birch flaring like a beacon half quenched on the western point, and off the eastern point a black rock, like a fast-anchored buoy.

Further away, Long Point lay like a fallen cloud afloat on the water, moored to the stable earth by nearer drawing shores of rock and sandy beach and the willow-clad bar of Little Otter.

Here and there were dots and lines of swimming waterfowl on the unreflecting surface of the bay, and occasionally a flying flock faring out to safety of wide waters or in to the abundance of the marshes, dissolving in the mist or materializing out of it as they went or came.

A scattered company of crows straggled in slow flight athwart the screen of rain and mist; a kingfisher hung in stationary poise against it, then plunged like a plummet into the water and far out on the shallows; a heron stood waiting in statuesque patience for breakfast to swim to him.

Far or near there was no visible sign of human life, nor amid the continuous purr of the rain, the contented gabble of the ducks, the whistle of passing wings, the raucous call of some estray or laggard and the metallic clatter of the kingfisher, was there any sound of it except from the quarter where the Canadian boat was taking in its cargo.

Thence through the heavy vaporous atmosphere came the lumbering of laden wagons, the rumble of their discharging freight and then the brisk rattle of departing empty wagons, all mingled with the shouts of teamsters and the vociferous jabber of captain and crew.

For one who had no apparent reason for being interested in fruit trade, Sam was uncommonly well pleased that the rainy day was not hindering it, and having assured himself of the fact he returned to camp.

Uncle Lisha still sat by the fire, the staff of his umbrella resting across his shoulder while he diligently greased his boots with the tallow in the bottom of the lantern, the accumulated drip of many candles, Joseph and Antoine looking on with interest from the tent door.

"You don't want tu burn your boots, Uncle Lisher," said Sam, standing by the fire and letting the water from his hat brim drip into it. "There's more profit tu you in hevin' other folks burn up their'n. I do b'lieve I smell burnt luther."

I guess they hain't gittin' tew hot," said Uncle Lisha, running his finger over the soles. "Makes me think o' the feller 'at went tu a neighbor's a-visitin' wi' a pair o' bran' new boots on, which for all he spread 'em aout on the stove ha'th, an' stuck 'em top o' chairs, the' wouldn't nob'dy notice 'em, an' so when he see they wa'n't a-goin' tu say nothin' abaout 'em, he up an' says, says he 'Ye needn't think strange if ye smell new luther.' Wal, Samwill, what ye diskivered?"

"Nothin' but water an' ma'sh an' woods, lookin' lunsomer'n they did a hundred year ago, fer there hain't even an Injin in sight. I heard the Frenchman lwudln' his boat though."

"Wal," sighed Antoine, "Ah wish Ah'll was be apples, me, so he was bought me an' took it to Canada. But so as Ah can' do dat, Ah guess Ah'll do nex' bes' an' go feesh some bull pawt. You'll goin' 'long to me, Zhozeff? We go on de scaow, an' took some funs."

Joseph looked out upon the dismal drizzle with a rueful countenance and answered, "Wal, I don't sca'cely seem tu feel like goin' not exackly. It's kinder oncomf'table an' sorter exposin' a-fishin' in the rain an' I'm mortal afeared o' ketchin' a eel. I like tu eat 'em, but I swan I don't lufter ketch 'em."

"O, come Zhozeff," Antoine urged in a persuasive tone. "If you a'n't want for ketch it, Ah'll ketch it, an' you can ketch de udder leetly feller. Come, Zhozeff."

"Well, I ruther guess I won't, I'm 'bleeged tu ye," and Joseph settled himself more comfortably in his seat. "I don't 'pear tu hanker much fer fishin' tu-day. Mebby Uncle Lisher'll go, er Samwil, mebby."

But Sam shook his head in decided negative, and Uncle Lisha audibly declined, "Good airth an' seas! You don't ketch me goin' fishin' fer sech fish in sech weather, I hain't a loon er a shell duck."

"Den, bah gosh, all Ah'll ketch Ah'll heat all," Antoine declared and went out to grub for worms in the adjacent pasture. After a while he returned from a successful quest, and getting a hook and line from among his stores he cut a cedar pole and set forth. Presently his camp mates heard the creak and splash of his departing oars, then a hollow clank as they were dropped in board and the rattle of the chain being wound about the nearest fishing stake, and then they imagined that they heard the whistle of his line and the spring of his heavy sinker as he made the first vigorous cast. Two hours later he appeared, dripping but happy, bringing a number of dressed bull pouts which, fried to a turn, he did not devour alone as he had threatened, but shared with his companions.

The afternoon was spent in the tent. Uncle Lisha discoursed of the past and Antoine of various men in Canada who were always the heroes of his tales, while in the breaks of conversation Sam several times went out for the ostensible purpose of a general inspection of the weather, though the examination was mostly confined to the direction of Lewis Creek.

Late in the afternoon the wind freshened from the northeast, the tossed branches dropped sudden showers upon the canvas with a startling, ripping sound, and amid the sullen murmur of the wind-swept woods and the louder patter of the driven rain could be heard the regular wash of the rising waves and the shrill whistle of frequent flocks scudding in from the lake.

Then Sam saw the Canada boat gliding down the unseen channel, the great square sail stalking between the trees like a gigantic ghost, till at last it walked forth upon the vexed lake amid the taller phantoms of mist and vanished in the thronging host.

Sam re-entered the tent with a satisfied visage and remarked:

"Wal, that 'ere Frenchman's got started fer Canerdy with his apples."

"An' like 'nough a blackbary," Uncle Lisha added, with a significant twinkle in his eye.

ROWLAND E. ROBINSON.

FITCHBURG, Mass.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* Our paper grows better and better every year. It has got so now that we *must* have it. I inclose a little "game hunting incident." Wish you all a prosperous and happy New Year. IRVING O. CONVERSE.

WITH A SURVEYING PARTY IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

BY FRANK WINCHESTER, ONE OF ITS GUESTS.

Part III.

THE day following our introduction to "possum and sweet 'taters" was, in the morning, one of the most unpleasant days we experienced during this trip. We were greeted by a cold, high wind from the northwest accompanied by a heavy rainfall, confining the members of the party to their tents, where we whiled away the forenoon in various occupations. The Judge, Cap, John, the assistant engineer and I engaged in the old but ever good game of "seven-up" or "old sledge," the stake being that the side losing a jack from capture by opponents must lay pipes down and quit smoking until the other side lost, when that side ceased smoking. I do not recall more fun connected with any game than we had during that dismal forenoon; and from our tent the contagion spread to the other tents, as we could hear the peals of laughter accompanying the commands, "Lay down your brier-roots and enjoy our smoke."

After dinner King and I tried to make up a hunting party, but the Judge and Cap declining, he and I accompanied by Carlo the spaniel started out, clad in "slickers" and long-legged rubber boots, as he said, "Just to take a tramp to keep our bones from getting stiff," and went down through the park land, across a burned part of the bottom land, to the heavy timber along and adjacent to the river. As we entered the tall grass in the timber I was surprised at the harmony between our "slickers"—as yellow oilskin waterproof coats are called in the West—and the wet leaves and grass at that season of the year, as they shone with their raindrops, and I called King's attention to it, but his short reply was, "Yes, I knowed it; no trouble to get up to game if we work right."

We had walked but a short distance, with King leading armed with his rifle, I with my 10-gauge, when he stepped into a game path, and pointing to a fresh deer track, said, "Your gun no good for deer, I will go and kill it." But I was determined, if an opportunity presented, to make that despiser of the 10-gauge change his contempt to admiration, so I withdrew my No. 1 turkey shot cartridges and loaded the gun with brass shells, whose load was 5drs. Hazard powder and 1¼oz. 000 shot, and kept close to him.

We had gone not over an eighth of a mile when King pointed to a large fallen tree top, and by a shake of his head gave me to understand that we would find our game in it. When about 50yds. from the top he stopped, and taking a quick aim fired his Winchester. As he fired I stepped up by his side, just in time to see a deer spring toward his path, and with a quick shot I sent it rolling into the path, with both forelegs broken close to the shoulder, and in a moment King had cut his throat, when I saw that it was a buck with a proud head of eight points to each horn. As I saw my trophy I shouted, "How's that for a scatter gun?" and turned just in time to see King cutting the throat of another deer lying in among the branches of the fallen tree top. Turning slowly toward me, he replied, "I got one deer, you got one," and he then dragged his, a small doe, to the side of my very large buck, and looking at them, said, "Scatter gun good gun, when good man shoot him quick," which admission was to me the highest compliment for my 10-gauge and my skill in handling it.

When I proposed to return to camp for horses to take the game into camp, King said, "No, hang them up; more fun for scatter gun before we go back." Bending over two young trees and fastening a deer to the top of each, after the deer was disemboweled, each tree rose high enough to carry our game out of the reach of all forest prowlers of the "varmint kind," as he said, and he then led through the grass to the bank of the river, which we reached at a point where it made an abrupt bend from a course nearly north and south to one east and west; or, to make my meaning plain to all, the river, which had been flowing nearly directly south, changed its course to flow in an easterly direction, and at the bend a "towhead"—as a small island covered by grass and short willows is termed—was nearly connected to our bank by a sand bar, making a protected pond of shallow water from the bank to the towhead, and it was covered with countless numbers of wild ducks when we looked through the grass along the bank. A shot from King's rifle at the ducks on the water, and with both barrels of the shotgun on the wing, dropped seven dead ducks, which Carlo soon brought to us as we reached the lower end of the towhead, where they were fastened with a pointed stick in the throat for decoys at a short distance from the shore of the island, and as we secreted ourselves in the grass, King said, "If you shoot as good at duck as at deer we get some duck," pointing to the flocks coming toward us. Never at any other time of my life have I seen ducks so plentiful and so fearless, as they would swoop down over the dead ones used for decoys, paying no attention whatever to Carlo retrieving dead ones, and never did I have such luck in duck shooting as I had that afternoon.

When I had fired all my No. 4 shot away and said so, King said, "Got enough; help dog get dead ones," and we soon had them piled upon the bank. And what a glorious pile they made, all large ducks, mostly mallards and redheads, with a few widgeons, canvasbacks and bald-pates, a grand total number which I will not give or sportsmen might term that afternoon's work pot-hunting; but after King had arranged two packs by tying the necks together, we each had a good load to carry to camp.

As we were crossing the sand bar to the bank King pointed to another sand bar about a half mile up the river covered with wild geese, and upon which we could see flock after flock alight, and said, "We'll go fix it so you and Judge get plenty goose shooting." Marching along the bank until we were opposite the island, we dropped our packs and guns and waded over to the sand bar, where he spread his slicker out on the sand and said, "Put yours down too; goose get used to him; you and Judge get under slickers and shoot lots of geese." Placing my slicker a short distance from his we waded back to the bank and watched the wary geese circling over the sand bar for a few moments and then we proceeded to camp. The rain having stopped about the time my duck shooting ceased, we did not miss the slickers on our march. We reached camp about 4 o'clock, when King and one of the teamsters took a team and went down and

brought our deer to camp, while I related the incidents of the afternoon's hunt to the Judge and Cap, who were both greatly surprised at King's appreciation of the shot-gun, and Cap and Judge both declared their intention of having fun with King about my beating him.

When seated around the fire after supper, the Judge, pointing to the strings of ducks hanging near us, said, "King, only scatter guns kill ducks like that," and Cap followed by saying, "King, Son's scatter gun beat your Winchester this afternoon; don't you want to trade with him?" at the same time pointing to our deer, and a good laugh was the response from all the party, in which King joined, and then said, pointing at the deer, "Scatter gun good gun when Son shoot him; shoot bang-quick—no time take aim; King too old to learn," and then, as he pointed at the ducks, he said, "Water deeper, shoot one duck, catch all rest without shooting," and then explained that if the water had been 4 or 5ft. deep where the ducks were sitting, he would have killed one with his rifle, skinned it, and arranging it upon his head so that he could see, he would have waded out and secured all the ducks he wanted by catching their feet and drowning them.

As not one of us had ever heard of such a plan before, we could not deny the success of it, but the Judge said, "Son's beating you this afternoon evens up the Red Rock bass fishing and shows you how we will all beat you fishing if we ever get another chance," but the reply was, "Come good day we go seven miles to Walnut Creek, where plenty of big bass, and I beat you all again." And then and there it was arranged that the first day King called a "good day" we would have another fishing contest.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

GONE TO SEE HIS GIRL AT NEW CASTLE.

IT was on a Saturday afternoon when I and my boy (who is always my companion on hunting trips) got out of a train at a little railroad junction in western Pennsylvania. Here four railroads crossed each other to cross purposes, for no two of the roads would connect with any one of the others. You could not come by any one of them and get away from that junction (that had four little frame houses on the side of a hill) by any of the other roads for at least two hours, and in my case it was worse. My train would not be along for four hours; so there we were, a man and a young boy, two beagle hounds and two guns, with four hours of time to put in and nothing to do.

The country round about was rolling, with a good sized stream winding its way through the valley, here and there a cornfield, or a bit of swampy ground, then a dense copse of hazel bushes and white birch trees. Just the country for rabbits.

There was a half-grown youngster of about eighteen summers in charge of the station and its three clicking telegraph instruments. Of him I requested permission to leave my baggage in the station house, asking him to keep a friendly eye upon it till our return.

"Where be ye goin'?" he said, all curiosity.

I told him that from the look of the country around I thought a short distance down the creek rabbits might be scared up, and if there were my two beagles would soon have them running.

The youth's manner changed at once. He was sure we would get some rabbits 'cause he'd seen lots on 'em all fall, but no one round here had any dawgs to hunt 'em with.

Yes, he'd watch our baggage; so we got our guns out of their cases, put a few shells in our pockets, unloosed the two beagles and started, the youth eyeing us wistfully down the railroad track. We had gone perhaps half a mile when the dogs started a rabbit, and away they went yelping with their short sharp bark, which is always sweet music to a sportsman.

I had forgotten about the station boy, although his earnest and intense interest in the subject of the rabbit hunt had impressed and pleased me; but all at once as we rounded a wooded hill we saw him running at full speed to join us. When he came up he asked if we had any objections to his going with us, as he was "tarnally fond of a rabbit hunt."

I told him he was tho roughly welcome to join us and we would soon have some fun, as the hounds had a rabbit on the run.

He started to say something, stopped short, rubbed his hand over his brow and then without a word he turned and fled back as if bereft of wit and sense.

We watched him until he was out of sight, wondering what could have gotten into him to make him act so strangely, but could not think of any reason for his curious behavior.

We got a couple of rabbits and returned to the station just as it was beginning to get dark; and our erratic young man accounted for his sudden bolt by explaining that it was Saturday night, and that in the excitement of the rabbit hunt he had forgotten that there was always an extra workmen's train on Saturday night, which came along about 6 o'clock, and which he had had orders to hold on this night until the regular passenger train (which was late) should pass. After reaching us he remembered his duty and speeded back with all his might, fortunately just in time to turn the red semaphore and switch the workmen's train on a siding, when the express rolled by.

It may be imagined what our feelings were when we found how nearly we had been the innocent cause of a railroad wreck, with the probable loss of a number of lives; for from the winding nature of the track, had the workmen's train not been held up, nothing would have prevented a "head on" collision.

For a while the youth wouldn't talk much. He was badly scared, as he well might be, but the story of the rabbit huut gradually won him round and he invited us into the little telegraph office, where we talked a while and listened to the clicking of the three telegraph instruments. He explained that one of the instruments was repeating messages for the movement of the trains, and a message just then going over the wires was to the operator at the next station to hold the down train (the one we were going on) until the up train arrived.

I asked him if he was an expert operator.

He laughed and said, "I guess not. I've only been learnin' three months and I get no pay, and you don't suppose that if I was a good hand at the key that I would work for nothing, do ye? If the talk comes slow and the day is clear I can make out pretty fairly, but if it's wet or damp and the fellow that's callin' me is in a hurry, then I can't take it at all."

"But you're not the station master," I said.

"Oh no," he replied. "He's Sam Aldrich, an' he's gone to see his girl down to New Castle, and he won't be back till Monday mornin' on the regular passenger train."

"Good heavens!" I thought. "Here is a callow youth, wholly irresponsible, who cannot take messages on a bad day, left in charge of a junction station where four roads cross (of all places one that should be in charge of an expert operator), and that from Saturday afternoon until Monday morning."

Visions of dire disaster flashed across my mind. Rear end collisions, upturned passenger coaches and locomotives, the ring of the axe upon the panels of the car to liberate the passengers, the crashing of glass, the fire from the deadly stove, the "agonizing shouts of the wounded," the weary wait for a doctor, the special train bringing assistance and the newspaper reporters—all passed before me as rapidly as thought can be born and leave its impressions.

My own train was nearly due and soon there came clicking over the wires the message that after leaving this station it was to pass on to the station next beyond and there pass No. 4. At least so the boy said the wires said. Now the conditions were bad, he said, and he was not exactly sure of the dispatch, so he had it repeated, with the same result; and almost at once, it seemed, the flashing headlight of our train burst into view and pulled up at the station.

The boy gave the conductor and the engineer the message, they signed for it, and we entered the train. She started off with ringing bell and escaping steam, and you may be sure I was ill at ease until, on rounding a curve at the next station, I saw the headlight of the down train waiting for us upon a siding, and then I leaned back and indulged in the "what-might-have-beens," all because "Sam Aldrich had gone to see his girl down to New Castle."

THOMAS MARTINDALE.

PHILADELPHIA.

THE WILD MAN OF CHILHOWEE.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Jan. 26.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* In your numbers of Dec. 14 and Jan. 4 you give descriptions of the "Lost Man in New Brunswick," and ask correspondents if they can throw additional light on the questions, who is he, and where did he come from. Apropos of the question asked, I can give you a description of his first cousin. The subject of my sketch is known as "The Wild Man of Chilhowee Mountain." To come to the real facts with as little circumlocution as possible, the man was found by a party of hunters several years ago. The four hunters were camped at the base of Chilhowee Mountain, on a deer hunting expedition.

The Chilhowee Mountain is a rough and very wild and brushy knob or single pinnacle that raises its head far above the other peaks of the Cumberland range of mountains. It stands somewhat aloof from the main mountain range and therefore has a name of its own. It is situated some miles west of Cleveland, Tenn., and ninety miles northwest of Chattanooga. This part of the Cumberland range is extremely difficult of access, as there are practically no roads into the wilderness. Nature seems especially to have ordained that this brushy, repulsive region should be the home of animals alone. It is entirely uninhabited by man, excepting it be an occasional "wildcat distiller."

One afternoon in November one of the party of hunters was returning to camp. He was riding and was following a cattle trail that meandered about the base of the old Chilhowee. It was growing dusk and the somber shadows were fast fading into gloom. The wind was whispering to the overhanging cliffs, and the tall trees were nodding their silent good night to their nearest neighbors. The birds were settling themselves for the night, and the hoot owl was making the gorges reverberate with his demoniacal laughter.

Thus engrossed in his own thoughts, and somewhat depressed by his weird surroundings, our lone horseman wended his way along the mountain path. At a sharp angle in the path his horse shied, and giving a peculiar snort, turned so quickly and abruptly as almost to unseat the rider. The man sprang to the ground, and quickly tethering his horse, advanced along the path with rifle cocked and ready to meet whatever foe or game was there. He expected to find a bear, as he hardly thought his horse would act so strangely over a deer or domestic animal. After advancing a few steps he came face to face with the object he was seeking, and, to use his own expression, "his hair all turned the wrong way."

There, half crouching like a wild animal, in the path was a human being; but that was all. Our friend spoke to the naked, starved-looking creature, but receiving only a snarl in return, very wisely concluded to let him religiously alone.

Returning quickly to his horse he mounted, and making a wide circuit so as to avoid the unexpected acquaintance, made his way back to camp. After reporting the find to the others of the company, the question now arose what to do.

All were of the opinion that if the man turned out to be a "wildcatter" it would be decidedly unhealthy for this outfit even to attempt to form his acquaintance. Because the ragged denizen of the forest was sure to have confederates and they taking the party for revenue officers would ambush the outfit. The entire party being native East Tennesseeans and Georgians did not require any great amount of explanation to understand what would be their fate if they aroused the illicit distillers. A few words will explain to others who are not familiar with this class. There would have been a few rifle shots ringing out from among the rocks and brush and one by one the hunters would have been picked off, until none would have been left to tell the tale. Then a searching party would have come out to the old Chilhowee. The woods would have been searched, it is true, by relatives and friends; but the camp and all vestige of their whereabouts would have disappeared and the searching party would have gone home without success. As I said before, there is no one within fifty miles of the Chilhowee of whom to ask the question, "Have you seen them?"

John, who had found the wild man the evening before, said that he was sure the man was a maniac, as he had an unnatural gleam in his eyes, so after due deliberation the whole party agreed to go and investigate. Mounting and taking a rope, some food and extra clothing, they started. They were at the location described by John in the course of an hour. Here all dismounted and keeping close together, in case of an attack, began the investigation. After following the cattle trail for a quarter of a mile, they discovered a very dim trail leading up the mountain. Here they halted and held another consultation. They were sure that they had stumbled on to a den of illicit distillers, and as they were not officers they did not care for the empty glory of an uneven fight with those fellows on their own ground. John, braver than the others, declared that if they would not go with him he would go by himself. Ashamed to desert a comrade in the hour of danger, they told him to lead and they would go with him. Up the mountain they climbed, keeping a sharp lookout and anxiously awaiting the result. They had climbed probably 300yds. upward when the trail ended at the mouth of a shallow cave or stone house, and there they found the object of their search. As they approached the old man sprang forward with a tremendous club, swinging it over his head. All hands leveled their rifles at him and tried to intimidate him, but he only laughed and snarled and chattered to himself in some unintelligible jargon. Realizing that he was crazy, the men lowered rifles and offered him food. He finally became composed enough to accept some of the food. He was almost starved and ate ravenously. He was the most pitiable object the men had ever beheld. Almost as naked as Adam, and covered with dirt, sores and vermin. He could only talk in broken, unconnected and totally unintelligible sentences; could not tell who he was, where he had come from, nor how long he had lived on the mountain side. His beard was long, filthy, coarse and matted with gum, blood and other foreign substances. His hair was half-way to his waist and hung in tangled twists or ropes done up in the same substances that had stuck to his beard. His fingernails were several inches long and curved like the talons of the eagle, excepting when broken off, as some of them were. The toe-nails were thick and unsightly, being broken off at various lengths from ¼ to 1¼in. The teeth were all gone excepting a tusk on each side, like a wild boar. Great Jupiter! Did anyone ever see such a specimen of the human race before?

The men who found him report that the man and his lair had a stench clinging to them that was almost unbearable. Scattered about in his den and on the ground outside were the bones and hoofs of calves and pigs, showing that the old man lived upon the young of the animals that were out on the range. He had no gun, axe, nor even a knife, and no matches; so he must have killed his prey with a club or stone; and carrying the carcass to his den, torn it to pieces by main strength. In summer and fall he lived on the mast and mountain berries, as the stains on his hands and beard indicated.

Well, while the old fellow was gorging himself, dog fashion, the men were plotting how to capture him without hurting him. He was down on his knees with his pile of food in front of him, shoveling good things into his mouth with both hands. But he watched his new friends with an eagle's eye, and every time one of them moved he would grab his club. The muscles in his bare arms and legs were significant evidence that he was a powerful man; and the fact that he was crazy and not responsible for his actions made him all the more dangerous. Nothing but feelings of kindness and humanity prompted our four hunters to attempt his capture. They wanted to carry the old man to Cleveland, and from there send him to the insane asylum at Knoxville, where he would have care and kind treatment for the rest of his life. The old man of course did not understand, and it was evident that he had no intention of being captured. All four of the hunters were young and athletic men. John, a blacksmith by trade, stood 6ft. in his stockings, weighed nearly 200lbs., and was a match for almost any man. Two of the party were strong young farmers, and the fourth man was a city man, but somewhat of an athlete, and a fair match for any of the others. After summing up the strength of the four, they concluded that with their combined efforts the old man could be overpowered without serious injury to any one. So, removing the rifles to a safe distance up on the mountain side, they set about their unthankful task.

While the city man was trying to attract the old man's attention with new supplies of food, the other three pounced upon him. Then the city man took a hand by grabbing hold of the old man's club.

From the start the four realized that they had an herculean task. With a scream resembling the cries of Pluto's archangels the old man rose to his feet, and then the battle began. John had thrown his powerful arms around the old man, endeavoring to pinion his arms to his body; the two farmers each had hold of an arm, and the city man had a death grip on the club, which the old man retained with a tenacity equaled only by death. For a moment it seemed as if they had him. If they had only had a fifth man to pass the rope around his body and secure his arms they would have had him sure enough. But alas! there were only four of them, and each one had "bit off just about as much as he could chew," to use a common expression.

The battle continued with unabated fury for several minutes, until finally John's strength gave out, and the old man broke the cordon around his arms and body. John then grabbed the club with the city man, as he knew some one would die if the old man got possession of that implement of destruction. All at once the old man turned the club loose and began to scratch with his terrible claws. John said he was half a mind to fell the old fellow to the ground, as he was about to ruin one of the farmers, but his big heart would not allow him to strike. So throwing the club as far into the bushes as he could send it, he and the city man waded in again. They grabbed the arm that was doing such terrible execution, and the fight continued.

Finally after much exertion John succeeded in tripping the old man off his feet and all went down in a heap. They thought now they had him sure; but in some way one or two turned loose their grip in falling and the old man shook off the others and rose to his feet with a large stone in his vise like hand. He seemed to have a special grudge at John. Entirely ignoring the others, he sprang at John and striking him a heavy blow felled him to the earth. Then dropping the stone he gave vent to an unearthly yell and bounded down the mountain side. Our hunters picked John up and found that he was not seriously hurt, as the old man had struck him in the chest, merely knocking the breath out of him for a moment or two. The others had various and sundry bruises and one

of the farmers was badly scratched about the face. They left the remainder of the food and the clothing in the old man's den and sorrowfully took themselves back to camp. The next day they packed their tents and luggage on the horses and started out the way they had come in—that is on foot, leading the horses, as there were no wagon roads.

They went to Cleveland and showing their battered forms to the officers of the law reported their experiences. Then the officers collected a large body of humane men, who were willing to go out after a forlorn human being, and under the guidance of one of our hunters went back to the scene of conflict. After much tracking and beating of brush, the party finally bayed the old man in his lair and surrounding him with a large force captured him. He was brought to Cleveland, and after being washed and shorn of his matted hair and beard was sent to the insane asylum, where I dare say he now reposes in comfort, unless death has relieved him of all earthly cares.

Such are the experiences of sportsmen. What do you suppose some of them will find next? A. B. Wingfield.

SNOWSHOES.

Seeing Mr. Hough's references to snowshoes in his excellent article on trapping, I thought it might interest some of your readers to know something about their manufacture, as when a child I used to watch the squaws who were making them for my father, and later I had hundreds of pairs made for myself, I have had good opportunities to learn how they are made.

The best bows are made from coarse-grained white ash, although sometimes brown ash and even yellow birch are used. These bows are made from green wood and shaped in any desired form by bending them round a small round stick placed on the side of the knee. For nice shoes they should always be hollowed on the outside of the heads and tails with a crooked knife, so that the strings may be protected from wear where they pass through the bows. Fifty years ago nearly all our snowshoes were made with a very large square-ended toe. These required more skill to use, as they tripped easily, and many white men used to fasten several ounces of lead on the tails to counterbalance the weight of the toes, though an expert always preferred them without. The toe and heel bars were made of seasoned wood, usually hornbeam or rock maple. In those days the heels were fastened with wooden pegs, later with common cut nails heated in the fire so they could be clinched, and later still by copper rivets with washers.

Common sole shoes for lumbermen were then, as now, rough, coarse affairs. They were filled with moose, cow or horse hide, cut very coarsely, and not stretched before filling, and consequently when wet sagged badly. They were intended more to stand and chop in than for steady travel, and were sold as cheaply as $1.50 to $2.50 per pair. Snowshoes made for trappers, scalers and explorers were an entirely different article, and their making required a great deal of skill, and only a very few women in the tribe could make a really first-class shoe, and they would never make but a few pairs in a season as well as they could for any reasonable pay, as drawing the filling so tightly soon made their fingers sore, so that they preferred to do inferior work for less pay. The best shoes were filled with either fall-killed caribou, deer or nice calf.

It is a widespread but entirely erroneous belief that no filling can equal caribou. Fall-killed caribou makes an excellent filling, but having traveled thousands of miles on all kinds, and in all kinds of traveling, I believe that those filled with deer killed in August, September or October, or those made from a calf six or eight weeks old, are just as good. When the hair of either caribou or deer grows long, it is at the expense of the thickness and strength of the hide. The hide of a winter or spring killed animal is not only thinner, but is not so tough. I once traveled in company with a hunter whose shoes were filled with the skin of a caribou which he had shot in February, and he had seen the shoes filled with it; but in March, when I was with him, his shoes were all in ravelings as soon as it grew warm, while a pair of calf-filled, which I had worn a great deal more than his had been worn, were in perfect condition. This was all owing to his caribou having been killed after the hide had become thin.

In filling with either, the hair is first removed and then the hide is cut in square or oblong pieces, then the corners are rounded, and the pieces are cut into strings with a knife by going round the piece till all is cut. The work of removing the hair and cutting the strings used to be done almost entirely by the men when the shoes were made by married women. Great care and skill were required to cut the strings of an exact width, as thin parts had to be cut wider than thick, so that when stretched all the strings would be of the same size. Thin parts of the skin or thinner separate skins were used for heads and tails, as they were filled with much finer fillling.

As fast as cut, the string was wound tightly in balls. Afterward these balls were made into skeins and stretched. This, when they camped in the woods, was done by cutting the tops off from two small trees which grew within 2ft. of each other. The tops were bent together and the skein was slipped over them; the natural spring of the trees drew the skein very tightly, and then a stick was passed through the skein and it was twisted very hard many times. When not near woods, the squaws put one foot in one end of the skein and passed a short stick through the upper end, and then twisted with the stick till all the stretch was taken out. The string was then wound into balls. In filling, the ball which was being filled from was always kept in water. On this account shoes were never filled in warm weather, as the warmth caused the tightly wound hide to heat and rot.

In filling, the heads and tails were filled first. These were often filled in fancy figures. Where the string passed through the bows, it was protected by a tag of dressed leather which it passed round, and which kept it from being cut by crust. The middles or bodies of nice shoes were filled with coarser string than the heads, drawn as tightly as the person filling had power. I have seen it drawn so tight as to bend the bows in. The middles were usually filled close out to the bows in plain filling, but some fancy shoes had a row of round twisted strings an inch long going round the middle at right angles to the bow and the fine filling inside, and I have seen shoes which had two and even three such rows, one inside of the other, separated from each other by work so that all the real filling there was was a quite small pad for the foot to rest on. This kind of filling was not common, as it was expensive and would not stretch more than the plainly filled. I have seen such fancy filled shoes sell at $10 a pair.

The only instruments used in filling were the snowshoe needle, which was 4 or 5in. long and ¼ to ½in. wide, tapering toward each end, with a square hole in the center, through which the string to be used passed, and a punch made of hard wood with one end blunt when the hand pressed it, the other end sharp and hardened in the fire. Sometimes the horn of a spike-horn buck was used with leather fastened on the base to prevent wearing the hand. Snowshoe needles were at first made of bone or hard wood, later they were made of iron. The skin of the neck of a deer was not used in filling, unless for the standards on each side the foot hole, as it was too thick and spongy.

Indians protected the shoes which they used themselves from wear by winding the bows with coarse string of either raw or dressed skin. They also worked dressed leather under where the foot came, and sometimes wove in strings of dressed leather where the wear from the heel came. They also used to turn their shoes over, wearing them on both sides. Protected in these ways shoes would last much longer.

In later years most shoes were made with round pointed toes, to suit the demands of trade. Also some with toes as wide and round as a section of barrel hoop. These were called Esquimau shoes. I have never known an Indian (the Penobscots and Passamaquoddy) to make any of the narrow shoes turned up at the toes, so common in Canada. Most of the shoes sold for caribou hide are not filled with caribou, as I have seen plenty of so-called caribou shoes for sale in years gone by when there was not a caribou in the State. Shoes filled on honor with either fall-killed caribou, deer or calf, will when worn on dry snow usually sag so as to show the print of the foot, but when wet they tighten, so when one strikes a pair of wet shoes together, after they have been taken off, they will hum as if one struck a tightly stretched line. Many shoes look as if tightly filled when they are not. This is done by filling loosely and placing them near an open fire when drying; the heat contracts the string and they seem tighter than the really honestly filled, but as soon as wet they show what they are. An expert can tell what they are by trying to move the filling on the bow back and forth with the thumb and forefinger. If they are honestly filled the string round the bows can be moved. If tightened by fire the filling adheres to the bows as if glued. To any one buying nice snowshoes I would give the old Indian's advice, "She very honest man, best way you watch him." M. H.

WITH THE BOBO BEAR PACK.—II.

At the Home of the Black Bear.

The soil of the Mississippi Delta is for the most part exceedingly rich, else it could not produce the extremely abundant and heavy growth of vegetation that it carries. The region on which we were hunting was covered with a solid mass of cane which stood about 15 to 25ft. high and was thick as the hair on a dog's back. All through the growth of cane stood great forest trees—ash, oak, hickory, gum and other trees which reach giant size. Across the brakes ran an occasional cypress swamp, at the head of which the growth merged into shorter and less bulky trees, often those of the persimmon, the holly or other trees, which were sometimes covered densely with the wild grapevines. It appears, however, that all the soil is not uniformly rich, or rather that parts of it are more so than others. Some of the ridges are especially strong and rich of soil, and here the heavy blue cane grows most densely and impenetrably—so much so that if I should say how solid a front it offers to the hunter I should hardly be believed. On these richest and heaviest ridges the natural food of the bears was most abundant, and the hunter craft of Bobo had found out the very place where the bear was feeding—a series of blue cane ridges about eight miles from our camp. Here the party had been able so far to get a start in less than half an hour after turning the dogs loose each day. On two separate days, as I have above remarked, they got two starts and killed two bears before going back to camp.

It was therefore with feelings of practical certainty that we all started out on the first hunt after my arrival in camp, which fell on a Friday morning. We numbered about a dozen hunters in all. Col. Dick Payne and Boney Leavell stayed in camp and fought the war over again some more, but this on Capt. Leavell's part was an act of generosity to myself. I had no horse, of course, and he insisted on my riding his hunting mare Gladys. This I did reluctantly, as it unhorsed him for the day. But when I forgot that part of it I was very glad, for a better mount for the work in hand no one ever had, and I soon saw that staying with the pack was much simplified by the sagacity of Gladys, who had evidently been on many a bear hunt before and knew what was expected of her.

We got a late start on this morning, but no one minded that, for it seemed sure that we could kill a bear in a few hours and get back to camp before dark all right. But for some reason the luck took its first turn against the party and we met with only disappointment. We had out only about half the pack, the rest being crippled or lost, but among our dogs we had some good bear dogs as any of the pack. We cast off on a heavy ridge and some of the young dogs soon opened, but for over an hour we had no token of serious business from any of the old reliables. At length we heard old Ronce running alone, but we could not be sure what was his course, and none of the rest went to him, as the pack was as usual split up into several eager sections, all hustling for themselves. In fox hunting it may be possible to keep the pack in part at least well together, but in bear hunting this is impossible. The dogs are of different nose and speed, and training and experience, and if considerable time passes before a bear trail is struck they scatter out and break away in spite of the efforts of all hands to confine them to bears and bears only. Had Ronce struck his trail near by a good number of the other dogs, they would all have gone to him, and we should have had our run in less than three-quarters of an hour after we got on our grounds. As i was, we went working back and forth across the ridge till late in the afternoon. It was feared the bear had moved out of the country on account of being hunted so steadily, and perhaps this was so. But finally, as we were riding down one of the long sloughs which made up out of the head of a big cypress swamp, the dogs struck a hot trail and went off roaring most delightfully, more than half the pack, with a lot of the reliable bear dogs among them. We could then hear the wild answers of one dog after another, from all over the country, as they hurried in to join the pack. The savage chorus grew and grew and then faded away as the chase swept on. Bobo's face brightened, and he went off after the pack in happy frame of mind. In a moment the hunting party was split into half a dozen groups, each riding as seemed best to him. I found myself in company of Mr. Felix Payne, Mr. Foster, Mr. Dunn and one or two of the negroes. Then we lost each other somehow and somewhere, and I was for a time alone with Mr. Payne, a very good bear hunter, and one pretty safe to be near when the bear was killed. We kept on riding across the ridges, and at length started down a long slough, paralleling the course of the pack, which could barely hear at times by the intentest listening.

A Wild, Mysterious Region.

"They are going to the Hurricane, sure!" said Mr. Payne, and then we settled down into hard riding for a while, trying to head the pack. Noel Money had at this time joined us, coming across a heavy cane ridge to get into our slough.

I should explain that the "Hurricane" is a strip of country about eighteen miles long and perhaps a mile or more wide, which marks the course of an ancient cyclone across that region. I presume there does not exist on earth a worse bit of country of its size. The giant trees—many of them 5, 6 or 8ft. in diameter at the stump—lie heaped and crossed in a Titanic windfall whose like few men have ever seen. Over all this the heavy cane has grown, and as fire has once passed over a portion of that country, a dense crop of blackberry, bittersweet and other thorny vines has sprung up over all, binding the cane fast in a network fearsome to face. Into this cover no horseman on earth can ride, not even Bobo, and the foot traveler is but little better off, for he cannot get over a mile in half a day, and could not follow a straight course even to save his life. Woe to the man who ever should be lost there, for no mortal could be of service to him. He might know his way to camp, but unless fortune brought him soon at the edge of the matted windfall he could never get out alive; and no matter how loud and long he blew his horn, he might as well blow it in his grave, for no earthly ear would hear it if he were half a mile from the edge. There was something frightful and uncanny to us all about this weird strip of solitude. One bear had gone into this Hurricane—as they all tried to do—and was killed not over 200yds. from the edge. It took over an hour to get him out, and when the rest of the party came up they thought the kill had been made at least half a mile away, for they could barely hear the horns which were blown to call in the chase. There was some strange quality in the acoustics of the Hurricane which made it impossible to hear anything more than 200 or 300yds. at the furthest. The loudest horn at that distance sounded faint, and even the whole pack running would then sound as if it were nearly a mile away. If ever the chase got into this mysterious, demonish stretch of ghostland it was all up for the day unless the dogs bayed the game close to the edge or drove it out again—which latter was not apt to happen, for the locality was the high fastness of no one knows what amount or kind of game. Certainly the Hurricane was a protector of game, and it was no doubt the home of many wolves, panthers and wildcats. The bears may winter there, but they do not like that country and do their feeding elsewhere, heading for the place of safety when started from the fat cane ridges where they are reveling in hickory nuts, acorns and persimmons.

No wonder then that we rode hard to head the pack when the chase lined out for the haunted Hurricane. Mr. Payne, Mr. Money and myself and one colored boy broke through a mass of cane and found ourselves at the edge of a vast cypress swamp, which served as most to the fastness beyond. This a man or a horse could not cross, so we stopped. Far on ahead we heard faint and phantom-like baying, as of the pack of the Wild Huntsman baying in the clouds.

Disappointment.

"It's all up," said Mr. Payne. "They've headed us and gone on in." Mr. Payne thought the dogs were running a wolf, something which was not likely they would do; but we could hear but very faintly, and could not distinguish any voices of the bear dogs. Mr. Payne therefore thought it best to try to call back the pack out of the Hurricane, and we all blew for a long time. This, we learned afterward, was a mistake.

Our detachment had waited for half an hour or more, and we began to find a wandering dog or two coming in now and then to us before we started out of the Hurricane to find the rest of the party. We met Bobo not far up the slough, and learned the unfortunate news that the bear had gone by him with a good lot of the bear dogs an hour before, and that our blowing had simply called off part of the pack. Bobo had thought that the bear was killed when he heard us blowing, or he could have followed on and headed the bear himself and killed it. This was very awkward, as it was now late. We tried to mend matters by riding down another slough along the side of the Hurricane, but though we once in a while heard a faint note or two we could not locate the pack. At dark Bobo, Payne, Money and myself were still waiting at the side of the Hurricane, into which our pack had passed and been swallowed up completely. The others of the party had gone to camp, and at length we also rode home, despondent, with seventeen dogs out of the twenty-three starters missing. The day had been most disastrous, and it seemed as though our hunting had come to an end, and that the Bobo bear pack had run its last chase. On the way home through the woods Bobo sang very loud and continuously—a sure sign that he was in a deuce of a temper over things.

So we got no bear that first day, though we had something of a run. For my part, I think they get bears entirely too easily down there, and believe it would be better fun if it were not so easy, as well as a great deal better for the bear supply, which surely cannot last forever. As I was only having the sort of fun I am somewhat used to, through hunting in countries where game is not so abundant, I had no complaint to make; but the others, who had been killing a bear or so every day, protested loudly against this unkindness of fate.

Accident of the Field.

During the day Mr. Money met with one of the accidents of the field which may happen at any time in the riding necessitated on the bear chase. A dry stalk of cane flew back and struck him full on the ball of the eye with much force. He said that at the instant he was sure the eyeball was broken quite open, and put up his hand expecting to feel it on his face. He said nothing, but a few moments afterward I saw him unsteady in his saddle and fairly faint with the excruciating pain. I found by rolling back the lid that there was a deep red, bloodshot spot on the eyeball where the cane had struck, and it was an awful eye the plucky fellow had. But I could assure him the eyeball was not ruined, which seemed to please him a lot. I had no notion he would see much with either eye for several days, but to the surprise of all he got over it so quickly that he could ride the next day, though his eye was inflamed for a long time.

A Pointing Bear Dog.

One odd thing I noticed that day, and one which perhaps has rarely been recorded on a bear hunt before. We had one little nondescript dog in the pack which was called "New York," which looked a great deal like a pointer, and which, no doubt, had pointer blood. While we were riding along a path some of the dogs began to sniff about and scatter into the cane. I distinctly saw this dog come up, sniff at the edge of the cane, where a tree had fallen, and then for an instant stretch out into an unmistakable point, as a bird dog would on birds. A moment later all the pack were off together on a trail which we took to be that of the bear we afterward lost. I have heard of dogs pointing deer, but never before saw one point bears. I feel quite sure there was no mistake about this, and that the dog actually pointed the trail.

By the time we got into camp that night we found that nine of the dogs had come in. One by one they came straggling in throughout the night, until by morning there were only a few missing. By noon only two were out, but one of these was Scott, which Capt. Bobo considered his best bear dog. What became of Scott we never knew, nor did we ever find Fly, another fine bear dog, which with four others had gone one day before into this same Hurricane and never been heard from again. The colored boys shook their heads mysteriously, and Col. Bob Edwards's Sam plainly allowed "Dat Harricane sho' mus' be harnted by somethin' er other."

The Dogs of Chase and Dogs of War.

On Saturday we all lay in camp except Capt. Bobo and Fincher, his son, who put in the day riding far over to the east, trying to find some of the lost dogs. Capt. Bobo told one of his servants, Bill, to ride over toward the Hurricane and blow there for the dogs, which we were all satisfied by this time had been either baying or fighting until late in the night. Bill was very philosophical about starting out, but developed a bad case of stomach trouble which kept him in camp until nearly noon, by which time six more dogs had come in by themselves, without his help. This I should call good generalship on Bill's part. The rest of us had a good time resting about the camp. Col. Dick Payne and Capt. Boney Leavell had the war fought from the first Manassas up to Shiloh by the time Jim, the cook, showed his calmly smiling face at the shanty door and beat his lardcan gong for lunch. It was always a hardship for these two veterans to break away from the war to stop and eat, and it required persuasion to get them from astride the bench which made their meeting ground. Moreover, there was danger for them in leaving their rear unprotected. All their war maps were drawn in the ashes around the fire, and it was very trying for them to come back from lunch —even such a lunch as Jim and his assistant could get up —and find the battlefield of Shiloh or Manassas knocked into a cocked hat by the swipe of a bear dog's hind leg. This always necessitated the beginning of the war all over again.

Ghosts, Spirits and Conjurings.

Mr. Foster, I found, could sleep as well as ever, and that is saying a great deal. He averaged about twenty hours a day, but when awake was cheerful and amusing as ever. He showed us how to carry a shirt cavalryman fashion, folding it so it would all go into one sleeve and be snug and tight. Then he started in on Col. Bob Edwards's boy, Sam, and kept that poor fellow guessing for the rest of the trip. Sam is one of those who believe in ghosts and "speh'its," and he and Mr. Foster had great times discussing these matters, Mr. Foster professing a similar belief. Sam told of a spirit cat which had tried to rub against his legs one night as he was going home from church.

"I done tried to stomp it, but it wasn't thah," said Sam. "Then I pulled my pistol an' tried to shoot it, but the bullet done pass right th'oo it an' ain't hurt it none. Then I starts an' runs. The fellah I wuz with he hollahs out, 'Whah yo' at, Sam?' 'Ovah hyah by Col. Wah'nah's place,' says I. Bimeby he hollahs out again, 'Whah yo' is now, Sam?' 'Ovah hyah by Col. Johnson's plantation,' I says. Then he hollahs out again after awhile, 'Yo' Sam, whah yo at now, Sam?' Den I says, 'Ovah hyah at Cunnel Edward's place.' Praise Gord, dat wuz about four miles. So I done run in de house and git in de bed an' covah up mer head. I sho' was scared. I looken fo' dat cat to come into my room any minnit all dat night. I allus 'lowed dat cat wuz a speh'it. I ain't nevah seen ve'y many speh'its, but I done see lots of folks what has!"

To all of which Mr. Foster listened with the greatest gravity and sympathy. But his masterpiece of work was with old Ben, who was fond of calling himself "a ole 'spei'unced bah' huntah." By dint of inquiry among the others, Mr. Foster got a knowledge of the names of some of Ben's best dogs, which once made up a pack which has now been dead for twenty years or more, but about which Saul was always talking. Getting him to one side one day, Mr. Foster carelessly began to tell Ben about his old pack, describing the color and peculiarity of several dogs as well as if he had known them himself, though he had never seen or heard of Ben or his dogs before this trip. Ben looked at him sharply for a while and then moved away and would not come near him again all day. He would go off by himself and sit on a log and hang his head in thought. At last he came up to Mr. Foster with a question, "Wha' kine er dog you sayin' my ole Ring dog he wah?"

"Oh, old Ring," said Mr. Foster, who had been posted well on Ring in advance, "Why, don't you remember Ring? He wouldn't ever let anybody tie a rope around his neck."

"Dat him—dat him sho'!" exclaimed Ben; but suddenly recollecting that Mr. Foster had no earthly right to know anything about old Ring, his face dropped and again he moved away. He told the other servants that Mr. Foster was a "conjurer," and the next day Ben left the camp, never having anything to do with Mr. Foster afterward.

The Negro as Bear Hunter.

Most of the negroes of that region we found simple, ignorant and not of courageous disposition. For instance, Hopson, the driver who brought me into camp from the railroad, was scared about to death at the thought of going back through the woods alone with a big piece of fresh meat in his wagon. He was sure that the bears would catch and eat him, and Capt. Leavell added to his disquietude by gravely assuring him that a panther would be sure to follow him and jump on to him in the darkest place on the road, as panthers preferred to eat black men above all other delicacies. Mr. Foster's friend Sam, who had such an experience with the spirit cat, recounted how once he and several other negro boys were out hunting coons one night, when they heard a panther scream near by. From all that could be learned the whole party ran home, about five miles, without stopping to take breath. Sam declared he could hear "dat critter comin' right clost up on top his heels, a-grittin' his teeths every jump he make." Sam was a very frank and fearless sort of coward. On the other hand, nearly all the servants about the camp, including all of Capt. Bobo's, were old and excellent bear hunters, as good as any white man could be, and these had no fear whatever of the wild creatures with which much experience had made them familiar. Bill, Tom, Pete and big Sam were Capt. Bobo's right-hand assistants all the time in his bear hunts, and owned some of the best dogs in the pack. Every one of them knew each dog in the pack, and could describe intelligibly to the others the performances of "that ring tail fise dog," "that stag-terrier," "that crooked tail dog," "that little foxhound with the bad ear," "that brindle dog of so-and-so's," etc., etc. Moreover, every one of these men knew where every one of the dogs came from and whom it belonged to, and what it was worth in the chase; and still more remarkable to the stranger, each of them, in common with the gentlemen who directed the hunt, could always tell the voice of each dog heard in the distance, and tell what that particular dog was up to at that particular time. It is a wild, free life these bear hunting negroes have led down in the Delta—better than they could have in any other country—and exciting enough are some of the experiences they have had out with the Bobo pack. More than once Capt. Bobo has taken a notion he wanted to take a bear home alive, and this he has done, roping and leading him behind a wagon, albeit with his reluctant consent thereto. Once Bobo caught and tied a live wild panther, and trussing his feet together took it into camp slung on a pole carried by two men over their shoulders. All of these exploits were seen and shared in very often by these trusty colored hunters, so that it is natural to find them well posted on the habits of their game. Thus Bill told me how a bear carries off a fat hog. "He just grabs the hog by the neck," he said, "and straddles over him, with the hog between his fore legs, an' he shore make that ar hog walk fast." Sometimes a bear will bite a big piece out of a hog and leave him alive. A panther is usually supposed to sling its quarry over its shoulder, as the lion and tiger are said to do, but these hunters all said that when a panther kills a deer it does not carry it in that way, but drags it by the neck. Two panthers will often operate together in this way, one taking hold on each side of the deer's neck, and they will go through the thickest cane at a great pace in that way.

The Biggest Coward on Earth.

There is no doubt that we were in a country and among men where the hunting of the black bear is about as old and oft-told a story as anywhere on this continent, yet I could not learn of any great danger ever attaching to this sort of hunting. I heard of the killing of many hundreds of these bears, possibly of actually thousands, but I could not learn of any bear that ever showed any fight, except one she bear which Bobo once said came at him with her ears back. The black bear will fight dogs, but these seem to prevent all thought of fighting man, from whom the bear always endeavors to escape as fast as possible. The unanimous verdict of all these many bear hunters was that the black bear is the biggest coward on earth for his size, unless it be the alligator.

This cowardliness robs the sport of hunting these bears of much of its zest, and really I do not think the rifle is the proper weapon to use in their pursuit, as Bobo often proves by going in and killing one with the knife. Noel Money told us that in India they were accustomed to use some heavy seize dogs in hunting bears, which nailed the bear always by the head. The bear was then always killed with the knife. He thought that by using some of these heavy dogs, slipping them only when the game was at bay, the black bear of the canebrakes could be killed in a similar way. I should be disposed to think that a short spear would be a very practical weapon for killing the bear, at least in some chases where the dogs had the bear well stood up. The only trouble in its use would be in the habit of the bear of moving on with the pack as soon as the hunter appears in sight. The custom is to shoot the bear as quickly as possible in order to save the dogs, which rush in as soon as they see a man come on the scene. With these light dogs, such as make up most of the pack now, the use of knife or spear would no doubt mean the loss of a great many more dogs, though it might afford more fun; and as so many dogs are killed as it is, it is not likely that the bear hunters of the Delta will change from their present customs. None the less, they all have a great contempt for the bear, and can not understand why some people will believe the stories they read in the papers about desperate fights in which the black bear figures so largely. Capt. Boney Leavell, like all his friends, had been a bear hunter all his life, as had been his father before him. He has to-day on his plantation an old white-haired negro servant, who is known to everybody as Uncle Joe (about whom we shall hear more later on). Uncle Joe is one of the old-time darkies, and has never changed his ways, and has a his life lived on the Leavell plantation, with no wish leave for other scenes. Uncle Joe was the favor servant of "Ole Marse Leavell," as he is now of "Ma Boney," and can tell many a tale of bear hunting with both of them. He has killed a great many bears himself, and understands the sport thoroughly. It was one of the treats of the trip to see Uncle Joe quietly smiling while Capt. Leavell told of a certain bear hunt in which they both figured not so very long ago. It seems they got up with this bear when they had no weapon between them but one knife, which belonged to Joe, and which he prized very highly. Capt. Leavell bears a lasting reminder of the war in an injured member of his body, having lost a foot and ankle from a gunshot wound received in one of the closing battles of the war; he could not, therefore, get about very well with his wooden limb and the cane, and when it is added that the only weapon he could find was a stout club, it may be surmised that he and Joe were not very well equipped for a bear fight. None the less, they sailed in with club and knife and had a very interesting time of it for awhile. Capt. Leavell would smash the bear over the head and knock it down, and Joe would try to do business with his knife. The main concern of the bear was to get away, and this at last it did, unfortunately, just at the time that Joe had struck it with the knife, so that in its flight it carried that weapon with it. "Hit him! Marse Boney, hit him!" called out Joe. "He's got my knife! Hit him!" Capt. Leavell, much convulsed with laughter at Joe's concern over his knife, did his best to get the bear, but could not do so, and Joe ran after it and grabbed it by the long hair of the back, and so at length by perseverance stopped it long enough to recover his much valued knife and finish up the bear.

The Bear Pack in Camp.

With many bear stories and the discussing of much bear lore we put in most of the time on Saturday while we were resting. We were visited that day by Mr. L. N. Kimerer, an owner of some timber lands adjoining us on the north, who rode down with a Mr. Ristenberger, of Indiana, who was visiting at his camp for a time. Like everybody else, these gentlemen were anxious to kill a bear, and were disappointed that no chase was on for the day.

On Saturday night we had a hard rain, which persisted over Sunday, so that everything was very wet and disagreeable about camp. The dogs, which were now much disabled by continuous fighting, lay around in different stages of discomfort. Some of the dogs were now beginning to grow very thin and sorry-looking from their wounds, especially those which had been bitten through the back by the bears. It seems that a dog bitten in the small of the back is unable to lie down, or to get up if he does lie down. We saw several of them which stood around with heads drooping and ears depressed, the picture of misery, actually asleep, for a moment or so at a time at least, standing up. They would waver and stagger as the drowsy influence overcame them; then there would be a swaying of the body and a sharp cry of pain as the wrenched back felt the sore muscles used, and then the poor creature would move slowly away a yard or so and go through it all over again—almost dead from lack of sleep. It was sad to see the consequences upon the dogs of the sport which had so little danger to the human participants.

In wet weather the dogs are more uncomfortable, and fight each other more cheerfully; so we had something at least to do in trying to preserve the peace and dignity of the camp. One black foxhound created considerable amusement in the evening, after most of the party had gone to bed, by sneaking into the sleeping room and stealing a whole cheese and the biggest part of a cake which the cook had placed on the refreshment table in the main room. He was driven out before the loss was known, but came back again persistently, and no one could tell what he was after, unless it was a glass of whisky, which was all he had left on the table.

The Party Diminishing.

The rain rather put a wet blanket on the party and on Monday morning some of the gentlemen were obliged to return home, among these Mr. Felix Payne, Capt. Leavell and Mr. Dunn. When Felix Payne rode away that morning we all bade him good-bye with regret, though his absence was to be but for a few days, as he said he only wished to be gone long enough to arrange some business matters. But alas! that was the last time most of our party ever saw Felix Payne. His untimely illness and death, which I have earlier chronicled, took place all too soon after his departure.

It was still raining on Monday, or at least enough to stop hunting, so the party did not go out at all, this making three days since the dogs had been out. On Tuesday morning the weather broke bright and fair, and the only thing to mar the prospective pleasure of the day was the fact that Mr. Foster and Col. Dick Payne were obliged to end their stay and return home. We put them across the river to their wagon in the early morning and said good-bye to them with reluctance, one may be sure, for two such gentlemen leave a vacancy not to be filled when they leave a camp. Neither of these gentlemen had his shot at a bear, which was a matter of regret to all the others of the party, though all knew that the luck of the chase was very fickle and sometimes refused to select the fittest for its favors. But both our friends went away declaring themselves delighted with the experience in camp. With them went the head cook Jim and also Sam, the colored boy, who lived out near the railroad. This subtraction from the ranks left the party small, though warlike. Mr. Foster quit-claimed to me a little rat-tailed roan swamp pony which he had been riding and which he said had belonged to some darky who lived somewhere or other, and would some day or other appear on the scene and collect the rent on said pony. This left me in a very good frame of mind, for I did not like to ride a horse belonging to a friend who would thereby be set afoot.

On Tuesday we went afield again, and this time we got something in regard to which we must defer reference till the next issue of FOREST AND STREAM. E. HOUGH.

509 SECURITY BUILDING, Chicago, Ill.

Game Laws in Brief.

THE *Game Laws in Brief*, current edition, sold everywhere, has new game and fish laws for more than thirty of the States. It covers the entire country, is carefully prepared, and gives all that shooters and anglers require. See advertisement.

Natural History.

A TAME RUFFED GROUSE.

BEEDES, N. Y., Jan. 28.—In your paper of May 11, 1895, is an article on "A Grouse in a House," and if you will allow me space I would like to speak of a grouse here called very tame by many persons who have seen him.

Within 250ft. of the house I live in, and not over 100ft. from a barn occupied every day, on the property of the Adirondack Mountain Reserve, is a log on which a ruffed grouse has drummed for the last eight years. I desire to have the opinion of some of the readers of FOREST AND STREAM on the age of the grouse, or rather, how long any have been known to live if left to die a natural death. It is possible—and seems quite probable to me—that the log I speak of has been used by one and the same bird for the time above stated. I have had rare opportunities to observe this bird's habits, and have seen and heard him do the drumming act hundreds of times. He is so tame that one may stand within 50ft. of the log, in plain sight, and it will not disturb him at all. A person can walk quite close to this bird before he will leave his log, and he has been photographed several times. I have seen him drum in every month of the year except July and August. In the spring he is more active than at any other time, and when the moon was full and giving clear light I have known him to keep up his drumming until midnight, after having been at it all day. I have brushed the snow from a spot on his log in January, February and March, and he would find it bare and use it.

Some people claim—even those who are deemed good authority on the habits of our Northern and Eastern birds have written—that a grouse walks or struts when he drums and beats his wings against the log or sides of his body. The bird I speak of was never known to do this. In drumming he stands erect—so straight that his tail feathers touch the log—and does not move his feet. His feathers are thrown out or ruffled, especially about the neck and breast, before a sound is heard. Then the wings, thrown slightly forward and up, move slowly at first, are raised higher and more to the front as the beats increase in force and velocity, and his wing motions end in very rapid rolling beats. So far as I could ever see, the wings do not touch each other, or anything else but air, and the sound produced, in my opinion, is concussion. At each stroke of the wings a vacuum is made, and the air rushing in makes the noise heard. A peculiar thing about this drumming is that it sounds as loud to one when quite a long distance from the bird as it does when no more than 20ft. away.

I have also watched this bird during the mating season—when he was conducting his courtship—with a hen grouse near at hand. On such occasions the female seems indifferent to the charms of the male; but he, on the other hand, is most earnest and persevering in his devotions, and appears smitten beyond cure. To win in this contest the male uses no words or force, but depends wholly on his looks—his form and show of plumage.

At one time, in May, I watched a pair of these birds for an hour and a half, and during all that time the grit and patience shown by the male bird were something remarkable. This was near the drumming log above referred to, and it was without doubt the "tame grouse" I was watching. The female was in a tree about 15ft. from the ground and spent the time in oiling and dressing her feathers. Apparently she did not regard the close attention her faithful admirer was giving just below, under the tree she was in. From her actions one could not judge that she knew a male bird was within a mile of her. I sat on the ground, with both birds within 30ft. of me, and had a plain view of all that took place. The male bird stood perfectly still during the whole time—ninety minutes—with his eyes looking toward the object of his affections. He stood erect, with his tail feathers spread wide, his wings out from his body a little, and drooping so that the outer plumes touched the earth, and his neck and body feathers all ruffled out. He did not take one step, nor move his head or body at all, except to shake himself twice, as he was getting wet. A shower of rain came up and I left the scene. Evidently the male did not like to have his plumage get wet, as it would detract from his good looks. He shook the raindrops off his head and back twice, and these were the only signs of life he showed during the period I watched him. When I left him he stood there motionless, with the rain pelting down on his gay attire. Whether he won his suit I never knew, though it is fair to presume that such fortitude in love would meet with success in the end.

I would like to hear from some of your readers who are familiar with the habits of the grouse, and to know if their observations compare with mine on the age and tameness of the bird, and on the question of how he drums and acts when choosing a mate.

W. SCOTT BROWN.

Another Captive Grouse.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., Jan. 30.—A Mr. Miles, of the town of Wilson, this county, has a grouse in his barn that came in with the hens last October, and is now so tame that it feeds regularly with the fowls; while it will not allow one to handle it, you can walk around it the same as you would the hens. I understand that the party expects to cross it with a bantam in the spring. I hardly think he will succeed in that, but will watch the outcome, and if it is a success will report through these columns.

J. L. DAVISON.

A Caged Grouse.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., Dec. 7.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* As there has been considerable discussion in the FOREST AND STREAM of late in regard to the peculiarities of the ruffed grouse, and as it is generally believed that they do not thrive well in captivity, I will endeavor to disprove that theory by noting a circumstance which came under my own observation.

William McLaughlin, a farmer living about two miles north of this city, has a cock grouse which came into his possession under rather peculiar circumstances. About sunset, one cold October day in 1890, as Mr. McLaughlin was going toward his barn, his attention was attracted by the flight of a bird through the stable door, and on closing the door he discovered a "partridge." After capturing the bird he placed it in a large cage, where it has remained most of the time since. It is quite tame, feeding from one's hand even though he be a stranger, and will eat almost anything given it, including all kinds of grain, as well as cooked potatoes and crumbs from the table. It is a most voracious feeder, and is very fond of the berries from the mountain ash; Mr. McLaughlin has several ash trees in his yard. It has never been sick a day since its captivity, and is the family pet. J. E. G.

A Nuthatch's Device.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 26.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* While out walking this afternoon I found five pigeon woodpeckers in some oak trees; also saw a number of crows flying over. Among the bushes in an old fence corner tree song sparrows were busy turning over dead leaves looking for food. I know that the sparrows pass the winter with us, and think that the woodpeckers do also, as I have seen one or two for the past three winters. Once, while passing through the grove across the street from my house, the note of a nuthatch caught my ear. Looking up, I saw that he had an acorn or nut in his beak. He flew to the dead limb of an oak, on which was a decayed knot. In this he dropped his prize and hammered at it vigorously, occasionally getting a morsel which he ate with relish. Upon my throwing a stick he flew to a limb a few feet higher up, keeping one eye on me and the other on his supper, all the while protesting by a series of "hanks." He then flew to another tree and seemed in no haste to return to the nut, so I went into the house and left him. The next morning I climbed up and sawed the limb off to find what kind of a nut he had, but it was gone. The knot was hollow and of an inverted cone shape, thus making an excellent place in which a bird might hold a nut to crack. It may have been instinct or luck that prompted this nuthatch to use a knot hole for his vise, but it looks like brains.

NUTHATCH.

A Feathered Progidy.

LOCKPORT, N. Y., Jan. 30.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* Yesterday I received the following letter: FLUSHING, Mich., Jan. 28.—*J. L. Davison, Esq.:* Dear Sir—I have just purchased an American bald eagle which I will dispose of at a reasonable figure. I thought you might want it yourself. If not will you kindly help me sell it? It weighs about 35lbs. and measures 17ft. from tip to tip, and is a very fine specimen according to the cyclopedia. Now, Mr. Davison, I thought the bird was probably worth $25. Please give me your views at once and oblige

J. W. DYSINGER.

I wrote Mr. Dysinger at once that if he had a bird that weighed 35lbs. and measured 17ft. from tip to tip it was not "an American bald eagle," and asked him to weigh and measure the bird correctly and write to the United States Museum, Washington, D. C.; the American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y., and Zoölogical Society, Philadelphia, Pa. On April 7, 1890, I had given to me a bald eagle in good condition that weighed only 10lbs. and measured 81in. from tip to tip of wings. If Mr. Dysinger has an eagle that weighs about 35lbs. it is worth all he thought it was, $25, even if it does not measure more than one-half of what he reports it to be. J. L. DAVISON.

[Perhaps an immature roc.]

Fox and Eagle.

A SETTLER near the town of Estevan, situated a short distance north of the international boundary line, and a few miles east of the western boundary line of North Dakota, while driving across the prairie recently remarked a fox some distance away crouching ever and anon in the tall grass and acting generally in a very unusual manner.

Assuming that he was stalking a mouse or other small rodent he gave him his attention, but soon the true cause of his movements became apparent as a large brown bird (presumably an eagle) was seen to drop on him like a flash. A fierce combat ensued (the bird underneath), as the fur and feathers scattered on the snow amply testified.

He hastened thither with his team, and as he drew near his dog charged on the combatants, when they promptly separated, the bird alighting on a knoll a short distance away, the fox meanwhile making a lively dash for freedom. Soon, however, hostilities were resumed by the bird, and this time with fatal consequences to the victim; for as the man again approached the scene the bird, as in the former instance, flew away; the fox, however, alas! for reynard, was prone in death's embrace on the prairie. W. M.

Linnæan Society of New York.

REGULAR meetings of the Society will be held in the American Museum of Natural History, Seventy-seventh street and Eighth avenue, on Tuesday evenings, Feb. 11 and 25, at 8 o'clock.

Feb. 11.—Arthur H. Howell, "Impressions of Some of the Birds of the Northwest, with Remarks on their Distribution." Postponed from meeting of Dec. 10.

Feb. 25.—Walter W. Granger, "Mammals of the Bitter Creek Desert, Wyoming." Arthur H. Howell, "Remarks on the Mammals of Montana, Idaho, and parts of Washton and Utah." WALTER W. GRANGER, Sec'y.

AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

Deer Horns.

OROVILLE, Okanogan County, Wash., Jan. 18.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* On the 6th of this month Ed. Lathrop, of this place, killed a big blacktail buck that had shed his horns. This is the earliest I have ever known a deer to lose its horns. Sometimes they carry them till March 1.

The snow is about 1ft. deep and crusted, which will be bad for deer unless it snows more soon. At present coyotes have the advantage. A few days ago while at Oroville I noticed quite a number of mallards in the Okanogan River. LEW WILMOT.

PORTLAND, Ind., Dec. 26.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* If our friends in discussing the question of deer shedding the velvet will make a note of the fact that the horning of bushes continues from midsummer on through the rutting season, and is not only more general late in the fall, but in a majority of instances is attended with pawing the earth at the base of the bush, they may come to other conclusions than those mentioned. At the proper season, no doubt, a buck could get rid of much of the velvet by horning a bush, but I can't see how he could possibly determine when he had his horns polished uniformly. I have seen willows and other small bushes stripped of their bark while in the sap, and some had even been twisted entirely off, while large bushes showed where the points of the horns had ripped bark and wood into shreds. The buck was evidently prompted by some other motive than that of getting rid of the velvet.

My humble opinion is, that as soon as his horns are fully grown and can be relied on for the purpose of defense and offense he begins to get saucy, and, as is the custom of his kind, leaves his mark on the bushes. As the season advances he horns more frequently, and paws the earth in defiance of his rivals.

G. W. CUNNINGHAM.

Game Bag and Gun.

FIXTURES.

March 16 to 21, 1896.—Second annual Sportsmen's Exposition, under the auspices of the Sportsmen's Association, at Madison Square Garden, New York city. Frank W. Sanger, Manager.

THE CALIFORNIA VALLEY QUAIL.

COMING from the East to spend the winter are many tourists, health and pleasure seekers, to escape the rigors of an Eastern climate. Many are lovers of rod and gun, and would pass many an agreeable hour if they were possessed of the knowledge. Having come here a couple of years ago, and being fond of the field, I have become pretty well acquainted with the home and haunts of the game of southern California.

The California Valley quail is a pretty bird, handsomer, I think, than the Eastern bird. Its color is a slate blue on back and wings, merging into brown and light on his breast, the only point in which he resembles the Eastern bird in color. A white line about an inch and a half long runs up along the side of the head above the eye, and he is possessed of a stately topknot that rises gracefully from the crest of the head, which makes him as graceful a member as any of his family.

He is a plentiful bird in southern California, being found in all of the valleys that afford any undergrowth for protection; loving the valleys that border on the larger range of mountains, and not being so plentiful nearer the the coast. His habitat extends to an elevation of about 3,500ft., rarely higher. Above this dwells his hardier brother, the famed mountain quail of California.

We shall take a hunt for him this fine December day—my friend who has just arrived from the East and I. We start from home in the morning with a horse and buggy for a three or four mile drive, out past many orange groves, the golden fruit and blossoms hanging side by side on the same tree and perfuming the air for acres around; on, past finely cultivated vineyards and orchards, the trees and vines set in one straight, unbroken line that stretches far away in the distance. What a different recollection the visitor has of his last quail hunt back East, with the bitter cold, snow and slush under foot and dark skies overhead, the fingers so cold and numb that they could scarcely pull the trigger when you heard the welcome whir and saw the dark object disappear in the distance.

The country and scenery begin to change rapidly as we approach the mountains; the orchards become scarcer and scarcer and are scattered around in a more broken manner, some situated on the rolling land at the base of the mountains, and in every gulch and gully where a few acres of ground can be cleared and cultivated. They also partake of the character of the scenery, being unkept and weedy, spindling and crooked, as if any regularity of form and line were out of place. There are deep gullies and cañons cut out of the mountains by ages of water that has rushed down the mountain side; and beds of dry runs covered with greasewood, the characteristic undergrowth of southern California; these never have any water running in them except for a few weeks of each year.

Lying to the right of us is one of these large marshes, being several miles long and averaging about a quarter of a mile wide, and pretty well stocked with the feathered tribe, so we will journey thither. Leaving the horse and buggy we will take our guns and dogs and journey the rest of the way afoot. As we approach the marsh we pause on the edge before we enter, and as we make preparations to start out again our attention is arrested by a peculiar cry. It is four syllables, *kuk-kuk-kuk-ka*, with a prolonging of the last syllable that gradually dies away in the distance, and is taken up again and again and repeated at regular intervals as if coming from one throat. It is the cry of the valley quail. When they are frightened or have been scared they have another cry, a short *chip, chip, chip;* it is generally their warning note, and is heard just before they flush. And now for your plan of action. If you have never hunted these quail before it is likely that you will return with a light bag, and in your heart disgust toward the quail. That is why a good many Eastern hunters come here with the best of guns and return with all manner of utterances against the quail, claiming that they will not lie to a dog; that there is no gameness about them, and that there is no pleasure in hunting them.

March on boldly to that covered knoll from which you heard the sounds proceed; work and work quickly. You should get on the mountain side of them and try and keep them down toward the valley; if you do not you will have difficult shooting; if they reach the mountains and get into the thick underbrush you will have hard work to get them, but will have torn clothes and disappointment staring you in the face. When they rise shoot at them, hit or miss—it matters not if you expend a few shot into space; you will be repaid for it after a while. After they have been flushed the first time they will not fly very far, but before you come up to them their swift legs will have carried them some distance.

After you have flushed them three or four times and spent several loads in vain effort to overtake them, you will have them scattered well, and your heart should rest content, as you will enjoy some excellent shooting, and your dog, which in the meanwhile should have been kept in the background, will work as well as he ever did. From behind sagewood, clump and stone within a radius

of a quarter of a mile, the whir, whir! of feathered wings and the gleam of dark disappearing bodies will greet the sight of the busy shooter, and many a tuft of feathers will greet the eye—a poor consolation for 3drs. of smokeless and 1¼oz. of No. 8 shot.

Many use No. 10 shot and claim that it gives best satisfaction in shooting and I think that it does to a certain extent; but although you will have more birds wounded you will not have so many killed, and a valley quail with his wing broken will often lead a dog a weary chase through the greasewood before he is bagged.

I prefer a cylinder bored gun in hunting, as most of the shots are got at 20 to 25yds., and have never been able to withstand the excitement of the moment long enough to let the bird get a better distance for a choke gun. But as you journey homeward you will think that the quail is the game bird the broad land through, and that his qualities are the same whether hunted in the cold of the East, that has nourished a more vigorous constitution, or bred by the mild winds of the Pacific. W. M.

PASADENA, California.

MOOSE HUNTING WAYS AND WEAPONS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 16.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* In your issue of Aug. 10, 1895, a correspondent—Tiam—gave an interesting account of a hunting trip, on which he killed two moose. With the issue of the following week began a series of criticisms upon his action which were to me, and some of my friends who know a little about hunting, very amusing. His conduct was described by one writer as "flagrantly unsportsmanlike" and "wantonly and unfeelingly cruel," because (1) "the second moose was not needed for food," and (2) "there could be no possibility of a reasonably certain shot at 200yds. which would kill. * * * A distance at which he could have no certainty of killing it, even if it stood immovably quiet. * * * The moose shot at was out of the range established by humane reasoning or the conventions of sportsmanship." Another critic thought that whether he had or had not killed a moose was irrelevant as affecting his ability to discuss Tiam's conduct; that the latter should have considered the rights of the people in all *ferœ naturæ*, and that two moose were more than his share; also, that he should not have shot at the moose running at 200yds., as "the range was uncertain, since with all his skill the moose was wounded and lost."

Answering this last remark first, I beg to say that the moose was lost only because of Tiam's ignorance of hunting. Every hunter knows that it is only in exceptional instances that game animals when shot drop in their tracks. A moose hit as the one mentioned would, if undisturbed, go a few hundred yards and lie down, where it could be finished and secured easily after an hour or two. Tiam knew no better than to follow the wounded animal at once, and so lost it, of course. The value of any observation depends upon the ability and qualifications of the observer, and the man who knows something about moose hunting should be better able to discuss it than one who is ignorant of the matter.

As to the point that the moose was not needed for food, I say that few, if any, moose are killed by sportsmen because so needed. I have been compelled to shoot muskrats for food, but none of the many moose I have killed was shot because I needed the meat. A sportsman kills his game as the culminating act in his sport. The pleasure does not lie in the killing—the taking the life of beast or fowl—as such, but in that as marking the success of his efforts as a hunter. The moose hunter matches his brains and acquired skill against the instinct and natural gifts of the animal; kills the latter to prove that he has beaten, taking the head and horns as a trophy, and making sure that the meat is not wasted. The pleasure is in the hunting, not the mere killing.

As to Tiam's invading the rights of the public and taking more than his share, I venture to remark that one man's share of the existing moose cannot be ascertained by dividing the number of moose by the population of the country. The law in his country contemplates the moose hunters as forming a very limited class numerically, and so provides that each hunter may kill two moose in a season. There is no reason why both should not be killed in one day if the opportunity offers and the hunter chooses to make use of it. I have done it a number of times.

The only remaining point made by the critics—in Corea they have a proverb, "Good critic, bad worker"—is that 200yds. is too long range. This is simply ridiculous. A man who cannot kill a moose standing still at 200yds. would better stick to fishing or criticism and let guns alone.

I wrote a long letter on all the foregoing matter in October last, intending to send it to you, but put it aside and it lay unused. In your issue of this week comes Mr. Irland and discourses with some vigor upon "A Rifle for Moose." I read his article this evening, and that incited me to write you a new and different letter.

The aim of mankind everywhere nowadays seems to be to get the most for the least: to secure the greatest result with the least labor, or, I may say, with the least of one's own labor. Hunters or would-be hunters are no exception to the rule apparently, from the tone of modern literature on the subject. To a real hunter, of course, the difficulties of the chase only add to the pleasure; but the would-be's great idea is to get a "hunting rifle"—one, I suppose, that, like the cheetah or hunting leopard, can kill his game for him. Now all the calibers and powder charges you can give a man who doesn't know how to find his game or get within range of it, and to shoot after he does get, or is taken by some one who knows how within shooting distance, will not enable him to kill it. A good hunter can find moose and get within range of them, and when there does not need a cannon to kill one.

I have hunted for years with a '78 model .44-40 Winchester having a 20in. round barrel and just 17in. between the sights, and have killed a good many moose with it. The first shot with this gun at a moose was at 210 measured yards, made just as the animal, a big bull, turned to run, showing its side. The ball hit a rib, cut the aorta and lodged under the skin on the other side. The moose ran 100yds. The next shot was at a bull running at its best, and went clear through without hitting a rib. The distance was a little over 220 measured yards; the moose ran about 30yds. and dropped dead. Both these shots were made while still-hunting late in October, when I had been twelve days in the woods, without rain or snow, the leaves dry and noisy, and on a day without a breath of wind.

The next year I killed several moose, the largest I shot from a canoe and so could not measure the distance, but it was certainly over 200yds. I knocked the moose down, but while my Indian was rejoicing at the shot it got up and went off. We landed, ran over a knoll and headed it off on a bog, where I finished it. I shot two moose once that were going along on a bog some distance back from the opposite shore of a pond on which I was camped. I could not measure accurately the distance across the pond, but it was much more than the land distance and that was 90yds.

These moose were all killed before I wrote you the letter on "The Hunting Rifle," printed in your paper of Feb. 9, 1888—a letter I wish some of your correspondents would look up and read. I still have the same little gun and the same ideas as then: that the man should do the hunting, not the gun, and that there is no use in carrying a cannon into the woods when a gun will do. It would not occur to me to carry a .50-110 or even a .45-90 for hunting. I might use such a gun at a 500 or 600yds. target match. The advantage of the light gun is in its all-round qualities; it will kill a moose, deer or bear, and yet is not too heavy to use for grouse, squirrels, ducks, etc. I killed my last moose with a .40-65 Winchester, which I took on my hunt because it had been presented to me by an old hunting friend who was anxious for me to use it and report on its merits. I think I shall have to write you an account of that hunt when I get leisure. I killed the moose on a very cold day, with hard and extremely noisy crusted snow, such as would have made getting a shot at a common deer problematical, yet I got within 70yds. of these moose through a dense mass of standing and fallen spruce and flat-leaf cedar, and killed the bull as he got to his feet. This gun is an inch or so longer than the other, but the latter would have done just as well. I killed a number of grouse on the same trip; shooting their heads off, as I may remark, for Dick's edification.

My views as to the subject discussed by your correspondents may be put thus:

If the law allows a man to kill two moose and he chooses to do it, there is no reason why he should not, and both in one day if he prefers and can, so long as he does not waste them.

If a man has a gun that will kill a moose at 200yds. and thinks he can hit it, standing or running, there is no reason why he should not fire at it. The question of range depends entirely on the gun and the man's ability to use it. I would not hesitate to shoot at a moose, if I had the opportunity and wished to, at a good deal more than 200yds., and would shoot off-hand, as I always do.

Jan. 23.—Since writing the above, two more correspondents write in your paper for this week, one asking how a 12-bore shotgun would do for moose; the other whether calling is a legitimate way of hunting moose. The 12-bore will kill a moose all right, of course; the Canadian and northern Indians and half-breeds until within a few years used the Hudson's Bay Company's smooth-bores, but I would stick to the medium caliber moderate charge rifle.

I killed a very good bull some years ago with a Winchester shotgun, my rifle being at the moment three-quarters of a mile off on a portage where I had left it with my first load. The gun was a 12-bore, cartridges loaded with 3½drs. of powder and 12 buckshot. I got a chance at the side of the neck at 50yds., fired once only and the moose fell dead after running 100 or perhaps 150yds. There was no particular pleasure in that performance; there was no hunting, as the moose came along within range at his own motion and no skill was required; for any one tall enough to stand on his tip-toes and look over the corner of the tent, as I did, and know what the foot square black patch through the thick spruce brush was, could have killed it. I shot it because I wanted it for the National Museum, to which I gave it, and it is mounted there.

In calling, the moose does not come within range casually and unexpectedly, as the one just mentioned did, but in response to the efforts of the caller to bring him there. The sportman seldom does the calling, so that the bulk of the credit lies with the guide; for any one should be able to do the shooting, which is generally at very moderate range, except in occasional instances, when it is very dark or the shooting has to be done by sound—locating the moose by the noise he makes—which requires experience and judgment; for none of all the creatures of the woods that I know can sneak about as silently as the moose does when he wishes to, despite his great antlers and huge bulk.

I never had but one moose called to me, and that, a bull whose horns spread 5ft., I killed with a single shot from my .44-40. It was the first week in October, 1884, about 9 P. M. I was in a canoe shoved up among the bog willows and brush as far as it would go toward the timber; the water was backed up by a splash dam, so that there was no bank, and the overhanging spruce and balsam made the darkness absolute. We had heard the bull a mile off on the side of a ridge, and I had let my Indian call it, once only, with his hands. We had no horn, for I never hunt calling. The bull came within twenty steps for some distance in the water, which was a foot deep some yards in the brush. "Splash!" as he stepped. "Woh!" A pause—"splash!" Another step—"woh!" We could see nothing before us but an impenetrable black wall. There was no way to shoot but by the sound, but it was so close something must be done at once, for we could not move the canoe. I rose to my feet, having already estimated the probable depth of the water ahead of us and the height a moose would be above it, fired one shot, and that was enough. The moose went about half a mile. I have killed other moose in the dark when I could make out nothing but an indistinct mass a little blacker than its surroundings, or could see absolutely nothing; yet every now and then some one writes that a moose cannot be located by sound. Any man who has ever watched a deer lick knows what little sound will enable him to locate a deer.

Opinions depend upon the point of view. Personally I have never cared to call moose. It is a sort of hunting where the credit is all due the guide or caller, all that the sportsman has to do being to hit a creature so big he could not well miss it.

Of all legitimate methods I prefer still-hunting. In that one matches his ability to catch against the animal's ability to elude, and there is plenty for both to do. The pleasure of a hunting trip should extend over every hour of every day. The mere being in the woods is a delight and chapters are needed to cover the varying pleasures of the camp life; the enjoyment of land, water, mountain, lake, forest and barren; of scenery, of rainy days, of successful and of unsuccessful ones, and of toilsome tramps and wearisome paddling. I like hunting that requires ability and work; there are kinds of shooting that almost any sort of human being can do; but there is charm only in that which takes skill enough to reflect credit on the successful hunter. So I sum up my views as to your last two correspondents thus: Do not go after moose with a shotgun. Do not call moose if you can get a chance to still-hunt.

As to Mr. Irland, who thinks a man almost insane who goes after moose with less than an ounce ball and 100grs. of powder, I say for his information that my two guns are .44-40 and .40-65 Winchesters; the latter used only on one trip, the other hunted with for many years. I have never had to make a journey for any moose after shooting it with either of these guns. The one killed with the .40-65 did not go five steps. Of the considerable number killed with the .44-40, one went half a mile; one, shot also in pitch darkness, went a quarter of a mile; no other one went over 300yds., most of them very much less. My conscience is clear on the letting moose get away point. The only moose I have let get away are the many I have refrained from shooting at. So many men nowadays, who know little or nothing about hunting and shooting, want to kill game that they can only do it by having a good guide to do the hunting, and by using—and that is what many of them clamor for—a gun so big as to make a shot almost anywhere—"on the tail, on the wing," etc., as the old darky said in the story—fatal.

My advice to would-be moose killers is, learn to hunt and learn to shoot; you will soon see that you do not need a heavy gun nor pack load of ammunition. Enjoy the hunting, of which the killing is a small part.

CECIL CLAY.

FREDERICTON, N. B.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* In your issue of Jan. 11 I noticed a letter from A. H. on rifles for big game, and he closes his letter by asking advice on the matter.

Now if I may be permitted to offer a word or two, I would say, get the biggest bore and all the powder you can, and you won't be sorry.

Mr. Irland, in last week's paper, has named about the right cartridge for moose; let A. H. study that up and bear in mind that Mr. Irland knows what he is talking about.

I have a .40-82-260. I put three bullets into a bull moose this fall with it and lost him after all, and one more in another moose and lost him. I am quite sure I would have got both of them with a larger gun.

Now some, no doubt, will say that I did not hold on the right spot of the moose. I will just say to such that in hunting moose in the thick brush of a New Brunswick forest you cannot always pick out the particular spot on a moose's hide you would like to perforate.

Our record this fall was a bad one: four wounded moose lost on one hunt and two brought to bag, or a total of two killed and four lost—three of them with horns. I am like Mr. Irland, I feel badly about it. I never had it happen before, always heretofore having had the luck to bring to bay every animal I hit. The first rifle I had was a .32 Remington, the next a .38 Remington, the next a .40-60 Winchester, and last a .40-82 Winchester; and now I am in the market for something about .45 or .50-cal. and anywhere from 100 to 125grs. of powder and solid ball.

Don't take an Express rifle in the brush; it is not good for that work. If you want more testimony, here it is:

Yesterday I had a long talk with old Joe Mitchell, our best Indian guide. I shot my first caribou some years ago under Joe's direction, and we are old chums. He has been away with parties since Sept. 18, and has had his share of luck as usual. He is home for the winter now, and we were comparing our experiences this fall.

When I told him of my bad luck with the big moose, he said, "Your gun is too small. I always knew that. No good, no good. I have the gun now for moose." And he proudly showed me his new .50-110 Winchester. "That's the gun for moose," said Joe. "He no run far with that in him; make big hole, bleed fast; get him sure."

When I first hunted with Joe he had a .38-40 old silver-mounted Winchester. Next he got a .44-40, and now the .50-110. So you can see what he thinks about it.

Let A. H. consider this when he speaks of weight. A .38-56 Winchester weighs 10½lbs.; a .40-82, 9½lbs.; a .45-90, 9lbs., and a .50 still less. Now, what do you gain by taking the smaller cartridge? Nothing; and you cannot get a lighter one unless you take one of the new model .38-55, and that, in my opinion, would be a mistake. The .38-55 cartridge only holds 48grs. any way; the name sounds big, but the stuff is not there.

As Mr. Irland says, the number of men who have a chance to look at a moose through the sight of a rifle is small, and when they do see him they want a gun that will bring him down, and the quicker the better.

I noticed that the FOREST AND STREAM man who was hunting with Jock Darling had trouble with his gun rusting. Perhaps a wrinkle I got from Henry Braithwaite would not come amiss.

Get a good piece of calfskin and have a cover made to fit loosely over the gun, and only cover it back to the cone of the stock. Keep the cover well greased, and no matter how it rains or snows your gun will come out ready for business.

You can load the gun and stalk your game and still leave the cover on till the last minute before firing, which is an advantage, as in the woods you are apt to get snow in the muzzle if you are not careful. A canvas cover, as supplied by the gun stores, is of no use in wet weather, or in snow in winter; it freezes and then it takes too long to get the gun out. The kind I refer to can be pulled off in a second, and leaves the stock to carry the gun by. I have never had the slightest trouble since I have used this kind of cover; and when I am in the woods I carry the gun in every kind of weather. Otherwise it is impossible to keep a repeating rifle in working order in the winter traveling through the bushes loaded with snow; the only way to do is to have a cover which is waterproof and can be removed quickly. BLUE NOSE.

The FOREST AND STREAM is put to press each week on Tuesday. Correspondence intended for publication should reach us at the latest by Monday, and as much earlier as practicable.

ON HUNTING ISLAND.

COL. T. G. WHITE contributes to the Charleston *News and Courier* this account of a recent hunt on Hunting Island, near Beaufort, S. C.: Decidedly the best and most elaborately appointed hunt of the season is that of the hunters on Hunting Island this week, from which the hunters have just returned, bringing with them nine splendid deer as the result of their week's sport.

Last Monday morning Matthew O. D. White, John Wallace, Major W. H. Lockwood, Capt. H. D. Elliott, D. Mabie, J. Berrien Walker, C. E. Danner, H. T. Danner, W. P. Sanders, W. H. Burn, Dr. C. G. Richardson and Dr. Berryhill, surgeon at the naval station, set out in the steamer Lorena, Capt. Vaden, for a week's outing.

The party landed at Fripp's Inlet and reached their selected spot for encampment on Monday afternoon. They carried with them six commodious wall tents and a bountiful supply of bedding and other necessaries. The cry of hounds was a magnificent one of fifteen dogs, headed by Matthew White's famous hound Christian, and other dogs of great scent from the packs of J. B. Walker, John Wallace, and W. F. Sanders and others.

With the experience of old Confederate veterans like W. H. Burn, formerly of the Brooks Guard, and Capt. H. D. Elliott, and Dr. Berryhill, an old officer of the United States army, the tents were soon pitched, and the evening consumed in trying the ducks. At an early hour the next morning the series of chases commenced and between Tuesday and Friday night Mr. Walker had killed two superb bucks, Mr. Mabie had secured one, John Wallace had killed two, Dr. Richardson downed one, Matt White shot one, and W. H. Burn scored one, and the ninth deer one of the colored drivers, Joe Roberts, brought down on the drive.

Altogether the hunt is pronounced one of the most successful and enjoyable undertaken in many years. Dr. Berryhill, an old army officer and an old hunter, with experiences in hunts in the Adirondacks and in Alaska and the far West, says it is the most delightful and interesting outing he has ever experienced and he had never been on one where so many deer were killed in the same time.

The weather was unfavorable, wet and rainy for two days during the week, and five of the deer were killed yesterday, the last day of the hunt.

Mr. Walker had the misfortune to smash his elegant Parker gun stock upon the second buck he shot; it being wounded by his first barrel and crippled by his second, when apprehending its escape he belabored the deer with the butt of his weapon.

The negro drivers and cooks who accompanied the party were veterans in the chase. Sam Jenkins, Dannis Freeman, Joe Roberts, Joe Danner, Aleck Key, Willie Freeman and John Freeman, names well recognized by our old-time hunters, contributed to the entertainment of the party by their unique experiences related in their native gullah.

Dr. Berryhill, beside being a most charming and accomplished gentleman, is a thorough musician, and with his banjo entertained the party around the camp-fires.

The nine huge carcasses, mostly of huge bucks with spreading antlers, as they were loaded in a cart to be butchered, were a sight that commanded general admiration. At this season the bucks are in what is known as the "blue skin," and as they dash through the covert look blue; while in the months of July and August, the best season by the bye for fat bucks, they are in the "red skin" and the color of autumn leaves.

The hunters say that the islands are filled with deer, owing to the close watch that was put upon them against marauders by the Beaufort Hunting Club, who have secured them as a hunting ground. T. G. W.

NON-RESIDENTS AND LAWLESS CITIZENS.

Editor Forest and Stream:

In former communications I have contended that deer were in more danger of extermination from violations of the law by resident hunters than from the influx of non-residents. What I said was largely in self-defense, and applied to the States of Michigan and Wisconsin, where I have spent many happy days wandering in the evergreen forests.

I want to be understood as finding no fault with any one except those who accuse me, with other unfortunate non-residents, of doing things we were not guilty of. I have found among the forest residents of those States whole-souled hospitality and a friendship that is reliable. But there are "game hogs" in and out of the hunting territory, and they grunt in a mischievous way sometimes. I inclose herewith a letter from a gentleman I met last fall in northern Wisconsin. He speaks the sentiment of the average settler or citizen of the northern portion of the State. You have permission to publish what he has to say touching game and fish protection.

G. W. CUNNINGHAM.

The letter to Mr. Cunningham reads:

I would not favor a non-resident license law, nor any law that would hinder in any way a sportsman from hunting in Wisconsin in season, no matter in what part of the Union his home might be.

My opinion is that the game supply is decreasing. This is my observation in an experience of six years past in the woods and in a deer country. In giving my reasons for so thinking I shall answer your third question, which was: "Are the deer in more danger from native hunters who hunt out of season than from hunters of other S[illegible] during the open season?"

In the first place, the law of our State is not enfo[illegible]. The only time of the year that deer are not slaughtered is when they are too poor to be eaten. There are towns which I could name where venison has been peddled on the street from house to house for the last three months. This is done mostly by the Indians. A great many deer, too, are killed in June and July and during the greater part of August by shining. A bullseye lantern is used for this, being suspended from the boat. The method is a favorite one for many, for it is so easy, and if they understand it at all they are sure to get deer. Being in one of our little towns last July and seeing a man I knew to be an old shiner, I asked him if there were many deer being killed around there. "Well," said he, "until about two weeks ago there were a good many, but the shiners overdid the matter and shined the lakes to death. I and one of our neighbors got a team yesterday and hauled my boat to a lake which is three miles from town, where we thought we would be sure to find a place where the deer had not been bothered. By the time it was dark enough to shine there were so many lights on the lake that we left and came home. It is not safe to be out nights on the water. A man is liable to get shot."

I have told this to show how extensively shining is carried on. This is done altogether by white men, but not altogether by natives, for I have known men from other States who tried their hand at shining too.

Whenever we get deep snow, deep enough to make it hard for the deer to travel, white men and Indians both run them down on snowshoes. When you were here you saw how men of our own State run deer with dogs in such a free and high-handed way that you would hardly imagine that there was a law against it. It would be a wonder if deer should hold their own against all this. If we would or could enforce the laws we have now and let every one hunt in season who wishes to, I am sure that there would be plenty of deer for a great many years to come.

There is only one provision I would be in favor of adding to our game laws, and that is to prohibit the sale of game of all kinds.

The snow here is about 16in. deep, and the ice on the lake is about as thick as the snow is deep. Our boys go to school every day with their dog team. They have made the four miles in twenty-eight minutes.

To illustrate how the game laws are enforced in northern Wisconsin, I went down to M. last Friday, and on one lake in sight of the town from the car window I counted six little houses built on the ice to spear from, yet our law forbids fish spearing at any time.

THE ADIRONDACK DEER SUPPLY.

SCHROON LAKE, Adirondacks.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* To allay any susp cion on the part of my readers, I will state that I am not a guide and that I do not make my livelihood by hunting deer.

In the articles which appear from time to time in the sporting journals of the day, there appears to be a strange lack of familiarity with the conditions of deer hunting in the Adirondacks on the part of the writers.

Hounding of deer is spoken of as a "slaughter of innocents." One dead deer to sixteen good starts is considered the fair ratio for computing your chances on a day's hunt. Two starts is considered a good day's work for the starters on their part, which gives you a deer for eight days' hunting of say six men and three dogs. This is what is called "slaughter."

I hunted twenty-four days during the hunting season of last fall; there was a party of seven of us; we killed eight deer, and considered ourselves in luck. But on comparison, you see, it is an average of one deer to a man for twenty-one days' hunting. Twenty-one days uses up pretty nearly all of a year's hunting season, and after a man has hunted twenty days without success and on the twenty-first day brings down his first deer of the season, he does not feel like a "slaughterer of innocents" in the sense in which that term would be used when applied to a participator in the Armenian atrocities. P. S. R.

Editor Forest and Stream:

So much has been said of late as to the scarcity of deer in the Adirondacks, I would like to express an opinion through the columns of your valuable paper relative to the same. I own property in Hamilton county, N. Y., on the shore of Lake Piseco, and besides rent a large tract, which is probably as good feeding ground for deer as any in the Empire State. Indeed, I think figures will bear me out in saying that more deer have been killed in Hamilton county than any county in the Adirondacks for the past three years. Now as to the scarcity of deer, this cry of no deer, or a great reduction in their number, in my opinion is all bosh. You will remember, Mr. Editor, that the Morgan Lumber Company and other similar concerns have hundreds of men operating in the West Canada section, and that the timber is being cut off down to sticks of no more than 5in. in diameter. That a new railway has been built through the Adirondacks, which, prior to its building, was among the most favored retreats of the deer family; and the deer of that section have not been killed off, but have retreated to the more remote forest far away from the howling mob, which, before the railroad was built, was not enabled to infest their feeding grounds, and again the hotels and boarding-houses had more city people last year than ever before. That every white-coated dude who visits the mountains in the summer brings with him a gun or revolver and a package of cigarettes [the latter is sufficient to drive all the deer into Vermont], and from the time they arrive until they leave there is a constant fusillade which renders forest and field dangerous to animal life.

Those who know the nature of the deer well know that they seek secluded spots, and the native hunter can to-day take you to yards where deer are as plentiful as they were ten years ago; but they have moved back into the denser wilderness, and when men, sportsmen, will cease their eternal howl about hounding and night hunting, and spend more time making an effort to preserve our forests, shutting out lumber monopolies and securing to the deer a suitable dwelling place, unmolested for six months in the year at least, they will see for themselves that deer are more numerous in Hamilton County than sheep.

Now, to prove my statements: in the rear of my summer residence on Piseco is a "fly," or a low marshy bog; not more than fifty rods from the house this opening is surrounded by timber, and has a stream of pure water running through it—an ideal place for deer. My man, who has charge of the place during the winter months, probably does not discharge a gun twice a year outside of the hunting season; the place is quiet and up to the time the summer boarders commence to come in I am sure it is safe to say that in that immediate vicinity there are not less than twenty deer.

Mr. Charles Baldwin and wife, of Brooklyn, came to "Spring Knoll Lodge" the early part of June last year, and remained a month; during that time they both saw no less than ten deer feeding in the open fields and in the edge of the timber; and they were not the same deer seen at different times. Below "Spring Knoll Lodge" it was a morning custom of a family of three deer to cross the open fields and go down to the lake shore to drink for about six weeks; but after the city people came and the never-ceasing target practice commenced, and parties out upon the lake shouting, and camp-fires built through the woods, the deer moved, nor did they return till after the closed season.

There are just as many deer to-day in the Adirondacks as there were five years ago, and during the closed season just as easy to get at; but when the rabble commences next season, they will go back to the more inaccessible parts of the forest, and by virtue of a few disappointed city pot-hunters going home empty handed there will be a cry of no deer. But through the open season look into the larder of the native sportsman; there you will find venison and, if you are willing to make the effort and pay for it, he will show you deer to your astonishment. Timothy Crowley, a Piseco guide, and myself surprised four, in one bunch, one night last summer in a locality where other guides said there were no deer. It is a mistake to attribute the apparent scarcity to hounding or night hunting.

In my opinion, if the timber be preserved and the land sharks kept out, the Adirondacks would always afford ample material for the sportsman's rod and gun.

WILLIAM H. HACKER, M. D.

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

AN ADIRONDACK ELEGY.

PORT RICHMOND, Jan. 24.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* I inclose to you a poem composed by Patrick Sheehy, a guide and hunter of repute who lived for many years near Schroon Lake, in the Adirondack Mountains.

The poem commemorates the death of Old Golden, a buck deer of fabulous size and strength which for many years eluded the hunters and their dogs, and was at last granted immunity from harm out of respect for his great size, endurance and beauty.

As related in the poem, the deer was finally killed by a party of visiting sportsmen, to the consternation and sorrow of the local hunters, to whom the name of Old Golden was a loved one.

The stories of the many chases after this famous deer have become legends in the vicinity of Schroon Lake, and are related by Samuel Sanders and Edward Jenks, who as young men had the honor of hunting the deer.

The poem was recited to me by Patrick Sheehy, Jr., himself a famous guide and hunter, and who, at my request, presented me with a copy.

The poem has evident merit and shows that the muse had not been wooed in vain by this old hunter-poet.

EDWARD SIDNEY RAWSON.

IN MEMORIAM.

"BRAVE GOLDEN" OF THE ADIRONDACKS.

On the Adirondack Mountains, where bracing breezes blow,
And purling streams dance merrily to valleys down below,
There buck and doe are daily known to ramble side by side,
And often cross the hunter's path, which fills his heart with pride.

Both grandeur and rare beauty in summer can be seen
All through those lofty mountain peaks, when clad in fragrant green;
In lonely glens are verdant glades, where footmen seldom stray;
It's there wild game do congregate, to romp, to sport, to play.

There was one deer among them bred, "Brave Golden" called by name;
Both far and near his fame had spread to be the king of game;
His spreading antlers and noble form were grand for to behold;
Each hunter's eye compared his size to a bullock two years old.

This matchless deer, while young in years, selected out his range
Betwixt Mount Pharaoh and Schroon Lake; for this was nothing strange.
He was protector of his herd when stormy winter came.
Full twenty summers brave and bold he bore his honored name.

Brave Golden's keen, discerning eye knew well each road and run.
To him it was no great surprise to hear the hunter's gun;
He seldom looked for refuge to river, pond or lake;
For he was well shod and mounted a bold defense to make.

The sportsmen all around Schroon Lake they would not shoot the king,
Though on his trail the hounds all day would make the valleys ring.
When night came on he took his stand to hold them all at bay.
With steel-like feet and spikes of horn they dare not come to play.

At the foot of Blue Beard Mountain, where fountains spring so free,
There grows the pine, the beech, the birch and noble maple tree,
In a low, rich, verdant valley, well shaded from the gale;
This was the place to meet the king, the hero of our tale.

Many a well determined shot from strangers passed him by;
Many a hound and hungry dog their rage he did defy.
Our noble king had left his friends, through which he met his fate.
The way he was foully dealt with is sad for to relate.

A party of young gentlemen came north to kill some deer;
They did not know Brave Golden was well known to hunters here;
They struck his track with well-bred dogs and boasted of the same.
Lo! soon the king through grove and glen proved both grit and game.

For three long days they chased him o'er hills and mountains high,
Till hounds and men surrounded him, each moment pressing nigh;
He seemed to plead for mercy. Alas! it was in vain;
He was shot and shed his life's blood on the bosom of Champlain.

We miss Brave Golden from his herd, we miss him from his home,
We miss him from each grove and glen through which the king did roam;
Our hounds will never strike his track to make the valley ring;
The stranger's cruel, deadly shot laid low our noble king.

A matchless deer has left thy park, fair Diana of the chase,
For which sad notes will soar aloft from the harp of old Orpheus;
That gifted muse called Melpomene in doleful notes will sing
Brave Golden's mournful funeral dirge while we this tribute bring.

In memory of Brave Golden we pen this last farewell
From men of game all 'round Schroon Lake, who knew his fame right well,
The hunter's pride, the noble guide, so faithful to his flock,
Both one and all we mourn his fall this day upon Watch Rock.

Rabbit Hunters in Trouble.

SATURDAY afternoon Henry Mettake, of Second street, and William Eisman, of Quail street, were returning from Kurners on a locomotive, when they were arrested by Officer Mason, of the Central-Hudson road, and arraigned before Justice Dayton, charged with jumping on trains, and each sentenced to ten days in jail. When arrested they had in their possession a bag containing three rabbits and a ferret. When released they will be arraigned on the charge of violation of the game laws.—*Albany Argus.*

CHICAGO AND THE WEST.

A Minnesota Decision.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 1.—There is at hand information from St. Paul, Minn., in the shape of a decision of the Supreme Court of that State, handed down Jan. 28, which at first sight appears to record a serious blow to the game law of the State of Minnesota. Closer scrutiny than a first glance will show it to be not so serious as one might suppose. It is a blow at the law, but not a blow which will damage the situation of protection in Minnesota very much or very long, unpleasant as the latter reflection may be to the dealers who just now are so jubilant. In brief, the Supreme Court of Minnesota confirms the Minnesota statutes on game only so far as Minnesota game is concerned, but says the law is not valid so far as it forbids importing game from other States. This again would seem to be contrary to the decisions of Illinois, Ohio and Michigan, which take opposite ground; but a close study of the Minnesota decision will show that the opinion of the court is rendered on a technicality, namely, that the title of the law does not cover all that the law itself covers. Even in the wording of the opinion, which is written by Justice Start, there may be seen a very plain and friendly tip that there should be another law enacted at the next session of the Legislature, governing explicitly the shipment of game into the State. The law is held unconstitutional, but only technically unconstitutional. It is too early for the game dealers to begin to crow. The proceedings in this case are as below:

One Edwin O. Keith had in possession a prairie chicken which he admitted to have imported from Dakota. He had himself arrested, and then asked for a writ of *habeas corpus*, which was denied. He appealed to the Supreme Court and was ordered released.

The syllabus, handed down by Chief Justice Start, is as follows:

State of Minnesota, *ex rel.*; Edwin O. Keith, appellant, *vs.* Charles E Chapel, Sheriff, respondent.

Syllabus—Section 2171, General Statutes, 1894, making it a misdemeanor for any person to have in his possession within this State any game or fish which has been captured in or shipped out of any other State or county in violation of the laws thereof, is unconstitutional, because its subject matter is not expressed in the title of the act whereof it is a part, as required by Article 4, Section 27, of the State Constitution.

Order reversed. —START, C. J.

In the opinion accompanying, the chief justice relates the facts of Keith's arrest and imprisonment and the denial of the writ by the lower court, and adds that the only question before the court is the validity of the statute referred to, which is as follows:

"No person at any time shall have in possession or under control any bird, animal or fish which has been caught, taken or killed at a time, in a manner or for a purpose forbidden by the laws of the State, Territory or county where the same was caught, taken or killed, or which was shipped out of said State, Territory or county in violation of the laws thereof."

It is claimed by the relator, the opinion continues, that this statute does not comply with the provision of the constitution that "no law shall have more than one subject, which shall be expressed in its title."

"This constitutional provision must be liberally construed," says the opinion.

"In Stuart vs. Kenaelia, 14 Minn., 534, the insertion in a law of matters which may not be verbally indicated by the title, if suggested by it, or concluded with, or proper to the more full accomplishment of the object so indicated, is held to be in accordance with its spirit; but a more liberal construction cannot be given without letting in the evils which the provision was intended to exclude.

"This rule has been repeatedly approved by this court. The question is therefore: 'Do the provisions of the statute in question tend in any reasonable manner to the accomplishment of the purposes of "an act for the preservation, propagation and protection of the game and fish of the State of Minnesota?" If so, it is germane to the title and is valid, for the necessity or propriety of such a regulation is a question within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Legislature.'

"Do the provisions of the statute tend in any degree to preserve the game and fish of this State? Does the statute on its face indicate any such purpose? We answer these questions in the negative. Its object, unequivocally expressed, is to protect the game and fish of other States by refusing to the violators of the laws of those States a cover and market for game secured by such violation.

"This statute relates exclusively to foreign game, while the subject with which its title deals is the protection of the game of Minnesota. No lawyer or layman can place the statute and its title side by side without being at once struck by the radical discrepancy between them.

"It is, however, claimed by counsel for respondent that the provisions of the statute prevent evasions of our game laws and facilitate the detection and punishment of persons violating such laws, and, therefore, the statute tends in a greater or less degree to protect the game of Minnesota.

"If the premise of the argument is correct, the conclusion is also. The statute is not limited to the closed season in this State. If it were and the prohibition applied to all foreign game, then the tendency would be to prevent evasions of our laws and protect Minnesota game; but by excluding foreign game during our open season, when it is perfectly lawful to take, have and possess Minnesota game, only increases the demand for the latter and tends to its extinction rather than its preservation. * * * Such being the case, the subject of the statute is not expressed in its title within the rule we have stated.

"Order reversed and violator discharged."

Executive Agent Fullerton, of the Fish and Game Commission, does not believe the above decision would prevent the Commission from seizing the game shipped illegally from other States, though it would prevent the prosecution of the offenders. The reason assigned for this is that if those who ship the game attempt to recover, they will have no standing in court, because they cannot go in with clean hands. To say that game illegally killed could not be seized outside the State would be like saying that the authorities could not seize a stolen horse which had been brought to this State from some other.

Still Another Minnesota Case.

There is yet another Minnesota case which has been argued and submitted before the Supreme Court, on which a decision may be handed down any day now, and which will be an interesting thing to watch when the returns are all in. This is the case of the State of Minnesota, *ex rel.*, Wm. Corcoran *vs.* Chas. E. Chapel. Corcoran was arrested in Ramsey county, Minn., for shipping part of a deer "other than the head and horns" "to a commission merchant," the latter being the well-known dealer, R. E. Cobb, of St. Paul. Corcoran also asked *habeas corpus* and was denied, and appealed. It is not certain what will be the result on this case. The statute was well meant by the sportsmen, who wished to break up the traffic in venison. Corcoran's attorney, however, argues that such a law is class legislation and unconstitutional. It is a law at least frank and plain in its purposes, and let us hope it will stand.

Interstate Commerce Law Amendments.

In view of the above interesting news from Minnesota it is especially apropos to refer to the question of interstate commerce law amendments. As was duly chronicled in FOREST AND STREAM last week, an amendment has been proposed from Utah, which it was hoped could be passed by Congress. The attempt there was in effect simply that of regulating this same question of shipping game, but the bill as framed was asked to apply to only three States. It is not at first plain how the interstate act can apply to three States and not to all the States alike, and it would at first thought seem that this too might be called class legislation and so might be refused by Congress. In this connection comes up the bill to which I have made earlier reference as drafted by Mr. F. S. Baird, of Chicago, for the National Association here, the text of which I offer below, as just completed by Mr. Baird. Senator Shelby M. Cullom, of Illinois, has promised to introduce this bill in the Senate of the United States, and Mr. White, of Chicago, member of the House, has promised his hearty assistance in the House, as have all the upper Illinois members yet approached. Is it too much to hope that we shall at length have a law which will effectually and permanently stop the conflicts of the State courts and give the sportsmen, in the powerful and respected federal courts, the opportunity they have long needed to stop the wrongful and shameful traffic in the game of such States as remain fortunate enough to have a little left?

The provisions of the bill drafted by Mr. Baird appear to be simple and effective. If Congress will give us that law we promise to make an entirely different showing in protection in this Western country. The text reads:

A bill for an act to amend an act entitled An Act to Regulate Commerce.

SECTION 1. To regulate interstate traffic in wild game. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States assembled in Congress, that it shall be unlawful for any railroad company, or express company, or other common carrier, or its officers, agents or servants, to receive for shipment, or transport, or for any person or corporation to ship or offer to any common carrier for shipment, from any place within any of the States or Territories of the United States or District of Columbia to any place without any of the States or Territories of the United States or District of Columbia, or to any foreign country, for sale, for market or for storage, any moose, elk, deer, buffalo or bison, caribou, antelope, mountain sheep or mountain goats, or any parts of the same, or any wild turkey, prairie chicken or pinnated grouse, sage hen, Mongolian or ringneck pheasant or partridge, quail, wild goose, duck, brant, swan, woodcock, snipe, rail, plover, or any other waterfowl.

Second—Provided that nothing herein contained shall prohibit the shipment of any wild game animals or birds or parts of the same that may be expressly authorized or permitted, by the laws of the State in and from which the shipment is made, if the same is conspicuously labeled "wild game," on which label shall be stated the kind and quantity of said wild game animals or birds or parts of the same, and the date and the place of shipment, and the name or names and address of both the consignor and the consignee, and a copy of which label shall be kept on file by the common carrier at the place from where said wild game animals or birds or parts of the same are shipped.

SEC. 2. Any person or corporation guilty of violating the provision of this section shall upon conviction be punished as provided in Section 10 of this act, and the powers and duties of the Interstate Commerce Commission shall apply to this section the same as they now apply to each and all other sections of this act.

E. HOUGH.

909 SECURITY BUILDING, Chicago.

BALL IN CHOKE BORE.

FRIDAY, Jan. 31.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* Dear Sir—In your last issue I notice a request for information as to the effect of shooting solid ball through a choke bore, and having done so repeatedly possibly my experience may be of use.

My gun is a 12-bore, 7¼lbs., 30in. barrels, right cylinder and left modified choke—at least that is what I ordered when I sent it back to the factory for a boring.

The balls I use run twelve to the pound and pass through the right barrel without difficulty when pushed with the wiping rod, but in the left they begin to stick about half way down and jam so tight in the muzzle as to require half a dozen smash blows of the rod to force them through. When they come out they have a zone of about a fifth of an inch in width where they have been compressed by the barrel.

Nevertheless they do not seem to break the barrel and I have fired a number through the choke, though I must confess I prefer to use the right and always do except when I need another shot immediately.

I load with 3¼drs. of powder, a thick pink edge wad, and then a pure lead ball, which I grease with tallow after placing in the shell. I use no wad over the ball, but crimp down on it bare, as this mode has the advantage that one can always feel the ball with one's finger when loading the gun, and thus not use small shot by mistake when it is so dark that one could not possibly read the markings.

I have used this cartridge on moose when calling at night and can recommend it for that purpose, as under those circumstances one is so near the game that the additional accuracy of a rifle is of no importance and the making of a big hole is. I have killed two moose this way, and one of them threw its head back and wilted immediately and the other jumped but twice.

HORACE BARNARD, JR.

The Florida Quail Supply.

Editor Forest and Stream:

One of your contributors says: "Quail are quite scarce here in Florida this season. Some attribute it to a wet spring and others to some disease."

We can assure him that the disease is in the game exterminators, and that the only cure for such disease is a sensible law applied in heavy and disagreeable doses.

Here is an extract from the correspondence of the Florida *Citizen*, from Tampa Bay, which proves that civilized ideas in regard to shooting do not count in that wild region: "TAMPA BAY HOTEL, Jan. 13.—Dr. and Mrs. Karsner, of Germantown, Pa., are among the arrivals at the hotel to-day. Dr. Karsner has been a regular visitor ever since the erection of the hotel, and for four successive seasons has held the game record, until last season, when he made the second best day's record with eighty-four quail killed, G. W. Bugner, of Philadelphia, winning the honors of the season with ninety-one quail killed in one day's shooting. The Doctor is here with the intention of making a new record. The hotel guide went out to-day for a couple of hours to work the dogs, and returned with twenty-seven quail."

These men are adopting a singular method if their object is to convince the world that they are sportsmen, for only idiots will see it in that light. A real sportsman will get far more enjoyment out of ten or twenty birds a day than a selfish, small-souled record smasher will in slaughtering 50 or 100. How long will the supply of quail hold out if such stupid work is allowed to go on?

A few years ago Thomasville, Ga., was one of the best stocked quail regions in the South and "game hogs" reveled in it for awhile, but some of the wiser ones woke up to the fact that killing 100 birds a day was not only making hard work of what ought to be a pleasure, but that their chance for future sport was being damaged, so it was agreed among them that only a reasonable number should be killed in a day; but I think the place is already pretty well cleaned out.

Tampa is now an attractive place for sportsmen, but how long will it remain so? It would be very much to the interest of hotel keepers as well as sportsmen if a check could be put on these senseless exterminators, but it will probably go on till those who wish to gratify their tastes in that line will have to leave for other parts.

St. Augustine is probably more thoroughly cleared of quail than any place in Florida, and for this there are two reasons: In the first place, not the slightest regard is paid to the game laws, and by the time an honorable sportsman will shoot a quail—Nov. 1—there is scarcely one for him to shoot within five miles of the place. Secondly, there are scores of men who think it easier to spend a loafer's life in the woods, picking up an occasional dime, than doing any kind of work.

Tallahassee keeps her legal eye wide open, and anyone who ventures to bag a feather before Nov. 1 will pay the penalty. If their game wardens are ever pining for lack of business they can find all they want to attend to by riding through the woods around St. Augustine any Sunday during October, or even September. DIDYMUS.

Pot-Hunting Deer.

AND now, Mr. Editor, I would like very much to know what is meant by pot-hunting as applied to deer. I feel that I am entitled to some information on this subject. If I go out into the forest with my rifle and by being sly see a deer lying down and kill it before it either hears, smells or sees me, am I a pot-hunter? If I wander around until wearied and take a position on a stump, log or hill, and standing motionless get a shot at a deer that, unconscious of my presence, comes my way, am I a pot-hunter? If, as is generally the case, a deer bounds from its bed and dashes off through the forest, and I turn, cock my rifle, catch a bead on him and drop him, am I a pot-hunter? In fine, has the term pot-hunter reference to the manner of hunting deer or to the hunter's place of residence?

G. W. CUNNINGHAM.

Ball and Shotgun.

SALEM, Mass., Jan. 23.—While working in the gun factory during the last war I procured a pair of barrels and made as good a double gun as could be made. It carried a ball the size of the old Springfield rifle. I tried to make it do good shooting, using fine, soft leather patches, and in fact all kinds of patches, but all to no purpose; the balls went where they would. At last an old backwoodsman came along and told me to trundle the ball into the gun and place a wad over it and try it that way, which I did, and found to my surprise that I could place a ball just where I chose to every time up to about 100yds.

A better gun for both shot and ball could not be found. I have the gun yet. There was only one objection to it; I found it rather heavy. Although the barrels were reduced in length, it insisted on weighing 9lbs.

The common shotgun cannot be depended upon for shooting with a ball, especially any gun having a bore as large as 12-gauge, for the reason that the ball is too heavy for the light, thin barrels; a 16 or 20-gauge would be far better.

I find a .40-65 Winchester with Lyman sights all any one can possibly desire. I find no trouble in placing balls in the space of my hand on a deer at 110 paces, and I secure partridges by removing their heads, which I find far better than killing them with shot.

If there is a call for information on the art of boring guns I might give some points that may not be generally known, which would enable any one to bore a gun so it would shoot just as was desired. BREWIN.

Companion for a Southern Trip.

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* I expect to make a horseback trip from Chattanooga, Tenn., to New York city, leaving April 30, going first to Mammoth Cave, Ky., then to Chattanooga by train; the route for horseback takes in the following towns: Cleveland, Tenn.; Paint Rock, N. C.; Asheville, N. C.; Bakersville, N. C.; Roanoke, Va.; Natural Bridge, Va.; Luray, Va.; Harper's Ferry, Md.; Gettysburg, Pa.; Harrisburg, Pa.; Philadelphia, Pa.; Trenton, N. J. I should like to have a companion, and if you can help me in obtaining one would greatly appreciate it. If you hear of anyone who would like to go would be pleased to confer with him and furnish any information needed.

WENDEL ANDREAS.

New York Association.

THE 1896 officers and committees of the New York State Association for the Protection of Fish and Game are:

President, Frank J. Amsden, Rochester, N. Y.

Vice-President, Robert B. Lawrence, New York City.

Secretary, John B. Sage, Buffalo, N. Y.

Treasurer, A. C. Cornwall, Alexandria Bay.

Legislation and Law Committee: Cornelius W. Smith, Syracuse, Chairman; E. R. Brown, Watertown; Chas. B. Lapham, Canandaigua; Howard H Widener, Rochester; Z L. Parker, Bath.

Auditing Committee: W. S. Gavitt, Lyons; H. S. Woodworth, Rochester; Wm. H. Case, Lockport; Thos. C. Welch, Buffalo.

Eheu.

SHASTA MOUNTAINS, Cal., Jan. 20.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* I perceive thy correspondents, and even thou, ye editor, persevere in preserving that word eheu. If you intend to promulgate it further, either as a thing unique, antique or curious, I will quote ye from the journal of Lord Byron, written in 1813; "Give me a republic or a despotism of one, rather than the mixed government of one, two, three. A republic! look in the history of the earth—Rome, Greece, Venice, France, Holland, America, our short (eheu!) Commonwealth, and compare it with what they did under masters."

Eheu! indeed. If it was worth preserving Byron would have rhymed to it. He found stronger materials without "making fritters of the King's English." When I have anything to say that I cannot express —— me if I will resort to eheu! R.

Camp-Fire Flickerings.

"That reminds me."

A GREAT SHOT.

It was on a California ranch in early spring time. John, the cook, aged about 17 years, had offered to slay several thousand of the myriads of blackbirds which were swarming around the ranch, if Brown, the boss, would furnish powder and shot. The birds were so numerous that the wheat had to be covered as soon as possible after sowing; if this was not done the ground would be cleaned as free of the seed in a very short time as if it had never been seeded. Under these conditions Brown was not slow in furnishing the necessary ammunition.

The next morning, after the breakfast dishes were cleared up, John made his appearance in the field, armed with the old muzzle-loading double-barrel shotgun. After stowing away a liberal amount of ammunition in the old gun, he took deliberate aim at a place where the blackbirds seemed to be most numerous on the newly seeded ground. With a tremendous report the old gun belched forth its deadly charge. When John had recovered from the recoil of the gun and the smoke had cleared up, he was surprised and delighted at the havoc he had caused in the swarm of birds. Perhaps forty or fifty lay dead on the ground and others dropped every few yards as the birds flew toward a clump of trees about 150yds. distant.

Loading the barrel which had been discharged, John proceeded toward the trees, intent on securing another shot, but as he drew nearer he was surprised to see the birds still dropping to the ground. When within about 80yds. of the trees he stopped, undecided as to whether he had better fire again or not, for it seemed as though he must have wounded all of the birds, so continuously were they falling. As the birds did not seem to be alarmed by his presence, he concluded to count the dead ones and find out how many he had killed with one load. Cautiously making his way under the trees he commenced counting and the birds kept falling. After counting about 200 dead birds, and seeing that they were still falling, he commenced to feel a little suspicious and noticed that the birds were acting in a very unusual manner up in the tree.

"Ha! ha! ha!" yelled Brown, who had been taking it all in at a short distance unseen by John. Laughing until he could scarcely walk, Brown approached and John, who was sure something was wrong, demanded an explanation. "Well," said Brown, "I had just sown about a peck of poisoned wheat when you came out and the poison commenced taking effect just after you fired." The boys all call him "Blackbird John." JOHN C. BRIGGS.

Sea and River Fishing.

SHAD, SNIPE AND HYACINTHS.

Shad fishing has already begun in the Neuse and New rivers, and stake nets are out, though the fish do not run lively as yet. In a week or so fishing will begin on Albemarle Sound, where the business is the heaviest. Dr. W. R. Capehart, who is one of the leading candidates for U. S. Fish Commissioner, to fill the place of Col. Macdonald, deceased, is one of several operators of steam fisheries and large seines. The length of his big seine, with its rigging, is 6,700yds.! In it he has taken the immense number of 200,000 herring, 4,800 shad, and 37,000lbs. of rock (striped bass) at one haul. The net reaches 1,900yds. out from the beach. He has 50 to 100 men salting in barrels and packing in ice for Northern markets. Herrings are chiefly salted; the others shipped fresh.

Colored men are doing some profitable hand-line fishing now. They use bitter-heads, or roach, for bait, and fish in deep water, where black bass, locally known as Welshmen, and pickerel (or jack) collect in schools. Last week three men caught $40 worth in one day, and they didn't get big pay either. Anderson Slade took in $18.75, Bob Crawford $10.35, and Buff Wilson $10. They sold to the shippers. Some striped bass are caught occasionally in the same way now.

As the season advances angling improves, and by the end of February a great variety of salt and fresh water fish are shown. The salt-water fish come from below, around Beaufort and Morehead. Between Feb. 24 and 29 the ninth annual New Berne Fish and Oyster Fair will be held here. On these occasions the display of wild game is something delectable to sportsmen, while as many as eighty varieties of fish have been on view at once, besides nineteen kinds of oysters, not to mention other species of shellfish, terrapin and crustaceans.

I have just come in from a two hours' row on the Neuse and Trent rivers with a couple of ladies. As I grow older I become fonder of their society, though I have to pull harder. We visited Moore & Brady's oyster cannery (a Baltimore concern), the fish market slip, the new iron drawbridge of the A. & N. C. Railroad over the Trent, and made a reconnoissance of Lawson's Creek, which worms through a two-mile snipe marsh just beyond the city limits. The water was almost a dead calm, with the temperature near 60°. (The average noon temperature so far for the month of January has been about 51°, with only four gray days.) On Saturday a party of us went yachting, with a nice ladies' breeze from the southward and westward, and the air grateful and balmy. Most of the party were from the North, and this midwinter experience was new to them. Indeed, January is the favorite month for yachting at New Berne, the weather being usually calm, whereas in summer the wind is apt to be too fresh for sailing.

Now, lest those who read my frequent notes in Forest and Stream should think me unduly enamored of this New Berne climate, I think I can explain its immunity from storms and its habitually docile moods in blustering seasons by saying that the town seems to lie in an atmospheric eddy. When storms which form in the tropics pass up the Atlantic coast we are just on the edge of the whirl, and when they come down from the northward and eastward we feel only its minimum force. I have ample data to clinch this theory. Why it is so I prefer the meteorologists should demonstrate. Weather forecasts, however correct for any given region at large, do not apply here. Winter here is short at the longest. I think we have a typical winter this year, though February and the complications of Venus and Mars may change the expression. We have now violets, hyacinths, Japan quince, fostoria, orange-jasmine and some other flowers blooming in southern exposures; the maple buds are red on the trees, and peas and potatoes are going into the ground. Next month we shall have radishes and asparagus, weather favoring.

Eight swans were brought into market this morning and some fine bunches of quail. Only a few brant have come up from below. Wild geese are for the most part lean and tough. Last week R. F. Stilley shot the largest wildcat on local record just across the Neuse River, opposite town. Sportsmen can get game by going where it is, but it will occupy two days or three, out and back; shelter and comfort guaranteed. E. P. Jepson and wife (with R. G. Dun & Co.) and G. W. Smythe and wife, all of East Orange; J. M. Hewlett and wife, of Hempstead, L. I., and E. H. Goodnough and wife, of New York, are among the latest arrivals. Shooting is open here until March, though it should end by the middle of February. Jacksnipe are here. They come with the shad.

CHARLES T. HALLOCK.

New Berne, N. C., Jan. 27.

CHICAGO AND THE WEST.

Jugging for Cats.

Mr. Jos. Irwin, the well-known sportsman of Little Rock, Ark., calls to attention a newspaper clipping recounting the doings of his old father, an old-time fisher known all over the State of Missouri as "Uncle Joe." Mr. Irwin, Sr., still lives and is a famous angler still. Speaking of one of his trips when he went "jugging" for catfish in the Big Muddy he says:

"I made one phenomenal catch on a trip made during the sixties, and on my arrival at home had the fish hauled through the streets on a dray and weighed and viewed by more than 500 people there who are alive and remember the fact. On that trip there were twenty in the party. I caught forty fine fellows that weighed nearly 1,600lbs., but had an experience with one that was as exciting as it was unusual and it afforded no end of sport for all of the party. The fish was the largest one I ever caught and weighed 159lbs. He took the hook shortly after we got out into the stream from Leavenworth and he took that jug under water for more than 100yds. Then he came up, but went under again and continued that performance for more than five miles, giving us a chase that was grand and exciting even for one who had followed the jugs for years, as I had. At length he was tired out, and by shoving and crowding him about we managed to run him out on the sand bar and land him and capture the monster."

The Longest Fight with a Fish.

But I have a fish story which will cause envy in the bosom of Uncle Joe and other anglers, who must admit that the record is broken in one way. A muscallonge brought to boat only after sixteen hours of fighting—that certainly is something of a story. This comes to me from O. W. Sayner, of Plum Lake, Wis., who says the fish was caught by John Coleman, of Chicago, who was at Plum Lake on a visit with his brother Chas. Coleman, of Rockford, Ill., and Mr. E. C. Glover, of 167 Dearborn street, Chicago. Mr. Sayner describes the occurrence which I offer in his own words:

"Mr. Coleman took along his light steel rod, also a minnow bucket containing a few large minnows (some about 1ft. long). He had a good large snell hook on his line, to which he attached one of the minnows and let it follow the boat on about 30ft. of line. He had proceeded up the lake about a mile, with his rod resting in one of these patent pole holders, when slap! the tip end of the rod struck the water. Mr. Coleman took in his oars and took the rod in his hands, and just as he did so the fish gave a lunge clear from the water, and this was the beginning of the longest fight, I think, between man and fish on record.

"He played the fish fifteen or twenty minutes and got it near the boat, when he happened to think that he had no gaff hook or gun of any kind in the boat, and the fish was too large to think of lifting him over the side of the boat, especially with no oarsman to manage the boat. At last he decided to run him ashore. There was an island about a quarter of a mile away, with a sloping beach, so he made for the island. To have his rod handy he just put it under him and sat upon it so he could row. He never thought about his patent pole holder. He had to bend to the oars, in fact, he kept pulling harder and harder until he pulled a stroke that just raised him from the seat a trifle. Just at this instant the muskee gave a jerk, and away went rod, reel, line and all!

"Mr. Coleman had a good laugh and came to the house. He said he had out about 50ft. of line when the rod jumped overboard, so I advised him to take some drag hooks I had made a few days before and try and pick up the line. He thought the water was too deep, and there was no telling where the fish had the pole by that time, judging from the way it left the boat.

"When the others came back that evening they talked the matter over, with the result that by 7 o'clock next morning they were ready to start to drag for the line. The second time they let down the hooks they caught the line in 50ft. of water. The fish came to the surface before the rod, but by a little fine work they succeeded in getting hold of the line, and after pulling in nearly 100ft. of line and letting the fish have it, up came the rod. As luck would have it, when he put the line on his reel he had tied the end fast to the reel. They had to fight the fish all over again, for through the night he had got all rested up, and being on the hook so long he had got good and mad. He fought worse than the day before, and pulled so hard that Charles Coleman could not make much headway rowing the boat. They fought till 9:30 A. M., during which time they towed him a mile and a half, when they got him near enough to shoot. He weighed 15½lbs." E. HOUGH.

909 Security Building, Chicago.

The Forest and Stream is put to press each week on Tuesday Correspondence intended for publication should reach us at the earliest by Mon day and as much earlier as practicable

Those Kansas Fishermen at Saynor's.

Leavenworth, Kan., Jan. 31.—In the interest of justice, honor, patriotism and comity, we demand a hearing in the columns of the Forest and Stream. We have been maligned, vilified, humiliated and degraded. We were pained beyond expression and wounded most fatally, in your issue of Dec. 28, by a most diabolical and outrageous libel upon some of the very best citizens of Kansas, the acknowledged *crême* of its metropolis. This occurred in a letter from the ever versatile E. Hough, who retailed the garrulous gossip of one Joe, the guide, as follows:

"He told me of a party of gentlemen fishermen from Kansas who put up at Saynor's place the summer previous. They sold their fish and marketed over 1,000lbs. (so Saynor told me also), but they kicked because they did not pay expenses! There was an amateur photographer in that same Kansas party who sold Saynor pictures of his house at $1 a picture. It would seem that the Kansans put up rather a hard game for Mr. Saynor to lay up money on."

Now the nude facts are, that the fishing party referred to was composed of some of the brainiest, wealthiest and most reputable residents of Leavenworth. They had theretofore made several trips to the resort and intend to make more. They did not "sell" a single fish (and they resent the very scaly insinuation), but packed all of them in ice and shipped them to the National Hotel at Leavenworth, where the muscallonge were served at a magnificent dinner given by the gentlemen on their return to a distinguished party, embracing the best people of both sexes hereabouts. The club always winds up each fishing excursion with a banquet of a similar character.

As to the "amateur photographer" mentioned, he was Mr. Horace Stevenson, the leading photographic artist of Leavenworth—a professional—who was taken along professionally, not as a fisherman, and paid for his time and services. If, as alleged, he did any work for Mr. Saynor, it was a strictly business transaction between them, and the Leavenworth fishermen knew nothing of the dicker. They had no interest in Mr. Stevenson's professional contracts or engagements. T. W. Scard,

Fish Warden of Kansas and the First President of the Club.

Pickerel Fishing on Overflowed Land.

Boston, Mass.—The Parker River, in Byfield, is considered by the local fishermen a good river for pickerel in the summer time, but they have just begun to find it good for winter fishing. On a short distance of river are several dams, and these dams overflow considerable stretches of meadow lands, more especially in the winter. The other day Mr. Claude Tarbox and Representative C. O. Bailey started out with the idea of trying the river once more for pickerel. It is not particularly easy to locate the real river current when the meadows are overflown and all is covered with snow and ice. But they cut the holes and put in their lines as near to the deep part, for the river, as they could hit. But the fish did not bite well. In one case they had cut a hole that happened to be over the meadow, and the water was not more than a couple of feet deep. Just for an experiment Tarbox put a line with a baited hook into this hole. Hardly had the hook had time to sink when it was savagely seized by a big fish. He was safely brought out on to the ice—a magnificent specimen weighing over 2lbs. Here was a hint, and when others were caught from the same hole the men began to cut holes on the overflowed meadows and put in their lines. The music had begun, and for several hours it was about all the boys wanted to do to tend the flags. They caught big pickerel in a foot of water. Hereafter they will fish the overflowed meadows when the conditions are favorable. Special.

Florida Fishing and Shooting.

Gulf Hammock House, Levy County, Fla.—Your favored request to hand. Sportsmen are having great sport with rod and gun. Mr. J. H. Price and wife, from England, have been here since the 16th of November. He says this is the best place he ever struck for all-round sport. Mr. Price is well known as a thorough sportsman in many countries. Mr. W. Singleton, from Philadelphia, has been here eight days, and his average is over 100 fish per day—viz., black bass, sea trout, sheepshead, channel bass, etc., etc. There are others camping out three miles below the house, who are having fine sport. One gentleman caught ninety-six sea trout in about two hours (darky baiting and taking off fish).

My hunter brought in five turkeys yesterday; weight, from 10 to 15lbs. each. Turkeys are plentiful this year. Last April and May were very dry months, which was very favorable for their young.

Two gentlemen are going down the river to try the tarpon. I will report their luck. It's not often I can leave the house, but stole away on Monday evening for about two hours and caught eleven black bass running from 2 to 8lbs. They are taking the Spinner in good form and are very lively.

Darky just in with three fine turkeys; can't take them; have them spoiling now. Capt. C. B. Wingate.

Canal from Eel Bay to Lake of the Islands.

Philadelphia, Jan. 31.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* I have sent to the Committee on Fish and Game of the New York Senate a communication requesting a small appropriation for the purpose of making survey of a canal from Eel Bay to the Lake of the Islands, Thousand Islands, St. Lawrence River. A glance at the map of the locality, aided by a knowledge of the situation, will show the great advantage of the canal, both as a means of communication with the lake from the upper end, together with the improvement of the fishing in the lake by reason of the current that will be thrown into it. In the event of the Canadian authorities withdrawing the privilege of free fishing among their islands, whatever leads to improve our side of the river will be decidedly advantageous. One familiar with the river I think will appreciate the situation. I have no interest in the matter other than that I am a summer resident on the river, and I think it will be a good thing and will benefit us all.

R. M. Hartley.

Drought and Trout Streams.

ITHACA, N. Y.—Trout anglers fear that the long-continued dry weather of last summer and fall proved disastrous to the brook trout supply of this part of the State. Many of the small trout streams of this locality dried up completely, and one farmer, a Mr. Schutt, up Slaterville way, affirms that he saw chickens picking the little fingerling trout from the water impoverished rivulets. Other reports confirm Mr. Schutt's opinion that the summer and fall of '95 was a dreadfully fatal one to the brook trout supply of Tompkins county. W. H. Willson, the veteran angler of this city, is discouraged at the prospect, but avers that when the moon gets gay and the bluebird pipes his lay once more, the planting of young fry will promptly begin.

Cayuga county hailed the first robin of the year Jan. 23.

M. CHILL.

Fishculture.

THE NEW YORK COMMISSION.

Extracts from the report of the New York Fisheries, Game and Forest Commission, made to the Legislature Jan. 30, 1896.

Special Protection of Stocked Waters.

The Commissioners desire to call attention to the fact that under the old game law, Sec. 273, Chapter 31, of the General Laws, 1892, power was conferred upon boards of supervisors "to pass at their annual session such laws and ordinances as shall afford additional protection to and further restrictions for the protection of birds, fish, shellfish and wild animals, except wild deer, and to prohibit the taking and killing of the same." This law was repealed by the game law now in force, Chapter 974, Laws of 1895, Sec. 302, except as to Suffolk county, and all protective laws must come from the Legislature. The Commissioners have occasion, not infrequently, to stock new waters with plantings of trial fish, to restock old, worn-out waters with the fish that once abounded therein, and to introduce new species into the lakes, ponds and streams of the State; and to obtain the best results, the fish so planted should remain unmolested until they establish or re-establish themselves. Special laws to cover such cases seem only to make the general game law burdensome and conflicting.

Following the precedent established by sister States, we would recommend that power be conferred upon the Fisheries, Game and Forest Commissioners to close streams or other bodies of water in the State for a term of years, not to exceed five, when in their judgment it is necessary to resort to such procedure to enable fish planted by the Commission to obtain suitable size, before fishing of any kind is permitted. The waters to be closed by a printed notice signed by the Commissioners and erected on the banks of stream, pond or lake, and by a similar notice published in the papers of the county in which the water is situated.

Consideration of Proposed Laws.

The Commissioners would also recommend that all bills relating to the fisheries, game and forest interests of the State should be referred to them for their consideration by the legislative committees having them in charge before action is taken upon them. The Commission is in session practically throughout the year, and through its agents and employees distributed over the State is in a position to know of and advise intelligently regarding needed legislation in its department. This course would tend to do away with conflicting legislation, make the laws more simple and less confusing, and the State would be protected from the harmful influence of ill-advised fish and game laws.

Pollution of Streams.

All just fish and game laws, broadly stated, are enacted to protect the fish and game of the State during the breeding seasons and to allow for recuperation afterward, and without such laws, rigidly enforced, artificial propagation, which is simply aiding and improving upon nature, would be practically useless to maintain the supply of food which comes under the head of fish and wild game.

Of necessity there are auxiliary laws to support the laws governing the breeding seasons, and one which demands attention at this time is that which relates to the pollution of streams. The present law on this subject is almost inoperative, because of the provision that dyestuff, sawdust, etc., shall not be allowed to run into any waters "in quantities destructive to the fish life," and it is a difficult matter to prove just where the dividing line between life and death may be. Seven years ago a select committee of the Senate of the Dominion Parliament conducted an inquiry into the expediency for preventing sawdust and other refuse being cast into Canadian waters, and in summing up the situation, after obtaining testimony on the subject from engineers, fishculturists and scientists in the Dominion and a number of the States, the following language was used:

"Settling here and there in its course down the stream, the sawdust forms a compact mass of pollution all along the bottom and the margins of the rivers and inlets, filling up the crevices on the gravel beds, and among stones, where aquatic life is invariably produced and fed. It becomes a fixed, imperishable foreign matter, and adheres to the beds of streams and other waters, and forms a long, continuous mantle of death and constitutes an endless graveyard to the innumerable colonies of insect life which inhabit this well-adapted abode for their existence. These, then, are only some of the pestilential effects produced by sawdust and mill rubbish in the waters of the country on fish life, and independent of its evil influences, from a sanitary point of view, on human life, and its damaging effects by seriously impeding navigation on many waters. Then why should the few, for self-aggrandizement only, be permitted to continue this wicked, devastating work for depleting the waters of their legitimate supplies of food, originally supplied by an all-wise Providence for the use of mankind? And why should the many suffer for the few who still pursue and unscrupulously advocate a continuance of this insidious and direful proceeding for entailing ruin upon the fisheries of our country?"

It is claimed by some that sawdust and refuse from mills and factories will not injure adult fish. Be that as it may, if the young fish and the food for both young and adult fish are destroyed there will be no adult fish.

To extract briefly from a report prepared for the Vienna Exposition on the decrease of food fishes: "The basis on which a rational system of pisciculture is founded is very simple. Preserve the natural conditions of those places where the fish spawn, conditions which favor the spawning process and tend to preserve the spawn and protect the first development of the eggs; thus everything which diminishes the supply of fresh water; everything which changes the quality of the water or the character of the bottom; everything which hinders the growth of aquatic plants; in fact, everything which at its source can destroy the health of fish of a whole basin. * * * Leave a free passage for the fish to pass to the places which are favorable for spawning. * * * Protect the young generation so that it can arrive at the age of maturity and contribute its share toward the increase of its species."

We know personally of two instances where mill refuse has been diverted from a stream in this State with but little cost to the mill owners. In one case the poisonous chemicals of a pulp and paper mill have been conducted to vats on the shore, and later the contents of the vats have been marketed. In the other case the sawdust of a large mill plant has been conducted by a series of boxes and belts, requiring no hand labor, to a central storage pit and used for fuel. Under the circumstances we think we are warranted in recommending that the law be changed to forbid the pollution of our streams and waters without conditions of any sort.

Fishways.

It will be observed that one of the rules upon which a rational system of fishculture is founded is that fish shall have a free passage to the places which are favorable for spawning. This means that fishways must be built over natural and artificial obstructions in our streams containing food fishes if the supply is to be kept up. We have a law that provides that in the future no dams shall be built in any stream over six miles long unless at the same time a fishway is built in the dam, but concerning the dams already built the law is silent.

The United States Supreme Court has given a decision as to the rights of proprietors to erect and maintain dams on any stream. This is the language in part of the decision: "Ownership of the banks and bed of the stream gives to the proprietor the exclusive right of fishing opposite his land, as well as the right to use the water to create power to operate mills; but neither the one nor the other right, nor both combined, confer any right to erect obstructions in the river to prevent the free passage of fish up and down the river at their accustomed seasons, as such obstruction would impair and ultimately destroy all such rights owned by other proprietors, both above and below the obstruction on the said stream.

"Fish rights below a dam constructed without passageways for the fish are liable to be injured by such a structure as well as those owned above the dam, as the migratory fish, if they cannot ascend to the headwaters of the stream at their accustomed seasons, will soon cease to frequent the streams at all, or in greatly reduced numbers."

Hudson Salmon.

Through the contributions of young salmon planted in the Hudson River by the United States Fish Commission, it has been demonstrated that the waters of the stream are suitable for this grand fish. Planted in the headwater trout streams, the smolts have, in season, descended to the sea, and at the proper time returned as adult fish to the river and attempted to ascend to the streams of their babyhood to reproduce their kind. Dams, and falls without passageways, and fyke nets in which they are taken contrary to law, have thus far conspired to prevent the Hudson from becoming a self-sustaining salmon stream.

The river Tay, in Scotland, commands for its salmon fishing (and it is a smaller river than the Mohawk in this State) an annual rental of $200,000, and the expenditure of a sum less than a quarter of that amount would open the Hudson to salmon from mouth to source, and to shad up to the point, at least, where they were known before the building of the Erie Canal.

Streams other than the Hudson are in need of fishways to provide the best results in furnishing the people with an abundance of suitable and cheap food fish.

Fingerlings Instead of Fry.

It will be the policy of the Commission, so far as its means and facilities will permit, to change radically the manner of rearing and planting young fish. Heretofore it has been the practice largely to plant the fry of the fall spawning fishes soon after the yolk sac was absorbed. At this period of their existence the young fish are helpless and an easy prey to their enemies. Fry of trout are of necessity planted in the spring, at a time when they are just beginning to feed, and the waters are apt to be high and roily, and the natural food produced in the streams is not fully hatched out, as it will be later, when the sun has warmed the air and water and developed the larvæ of all insect life.

Fingerling trout planted in the fall are stronger, larger and more active fish, and find an abundance of food hatched out for them; the waters having been tempered by the summer's sun and subsided from the spring freshets, the trout have a better start in every way to fight the battle which they must fight in wild waters. Improved methods demand that the young fish be retained in rearing boxes or ponds and fed until they reach the age of from 4 to 12 months before they are planted in wild waters. This will require additional rearing boxes and ponds, and a greater expenditure for food and labor, but the advantages and benefits to be derived from this method of planting fish, in a great measure able to care for themselves, has been demonstrated, and will well repay the outlay. It will be some time before all the young of the fall spawning fishes can be reared to fingerlings before they are planted, but so far as practicable this will be the method pursued.

Game Fishes and Food Fishes.

Occasionally it has been charged by those ignorant of the subject that this Commission is largely if not chiefly engaged in propagating game fishes for the few at the expense of the many. The absurdity of this charge is demonstrated by an examination of the tables of fish reared and planted by the Commissioners. In the abstract, all fishes are food fishes, but there is no fixed standard by which to determine which fishes are the so-called game fishes. For the purpose of showing how idle this charge is, we will divide the fish into commercial and hook-and-line fish. During the year ending Sept. 30, 1895, the State has planted 196,247,840 fish of various kinds and ages. Calling the brook trout, brown trout, rainbow trout, landlocked salmon, sea salmon, mascalonge and black bass hook-and-line or "game fishes," there have been planted of these species 8,627,906. Of whitefish, pike-perch, tomcod, smelts, ciscoes, shad, bullheads, frostfish, etc., or of the commercial or "food fishes," there have been planted 187,619,934. In other words, for every single "game" or hook and line fish planted in the State, the Commissioners have planted twenty-one and a fraction of "food" or commercial fishes. It must be taken into account that the so-called game fishes are the highest order of food fishes, and that the love of angling is on the increase among the people as a healthy relaxation from the counting house, the pulpit, the workshop, the forge and the factory, and the whole people must be considered in the matter of propagating and planting fish in the waters of the State. The angler and the commercial fisherman both have rights which we are bound to respect, but our efforts are directed entirely to the propagation of food fishes, by whatever special names their adherents may choose to call them.

Diminished Sources of Supply.

Almost since the date of the creation of the New York Fish Commission in 1868 it has been dependent in great degree upon the waters of the great lakes for a supply of lake trout and other fish eggs. In recent years the supply of eggs from this source has been growing gradually less, and it is a matter of serious consideration where we shall look for a supply of eggs of the food or commercial fishes. With our increasing population and the growing interest taken in hook-and-line fishes, it is also a serious matter to obtain a sufficient quantity of the eggs of such fishes to supply the demand for young fish for distribution in State waters. The demand each year is several times greater than the supply.

We would recommend as a public necessity that two bodies of water in the Adirondack region, to be selected by the Commission, be set aside by law, to be controlled by the Commission and used as stock waters to supply eggs of lake trout and other fish for public waters of the State. For this purpose the waters would be thoroughly stocked with the species of fish most in demand and maintained as natural stock ponds. It would not be necessary to erect hatcheries on the shores of these stock waters or disfigure them in any way, as the eggs would be taken at the spawning season and conveyed to State hatcheries for development.

Food Fish Output.

It is the desire of the Commission to greatly increase the output of commercial or so-called food fishes. Last year the Commission planted 41,205,000 pike perch fry (also called wall-eyed pike), one of the best of table fishes, and a hook-and-line fish as well; 24,080,000 whitefish and 18,000,000 ciscoes. These are the very choicest of food fishes, but the annual output should be doubled or trebled, and we would recommend a special appropriation of $25,000 to be used for the purchase of suitable lands (and water if necessary), and to erect buildings in such place or places as may be selected by the Commission for the propagation of pike perch, whitefish, ciscoes, black bass, etc.

Black Bass Hatching.

The initial experiments conducted last year in hatching black bass artificially convinced the Commissioners that it may be quite possible to hatch black bass in large quantities and thus supply the demand for this excellent fish, which each year is far in excess of the number to be obtained by the Commission.

We feel that we must utter a word of caution to those who apply for fish, particularly for the different species of trout other than lake trout, and for black bass. The annual applications call for more of these fish than it is possible to supply under the most favorable conditions. Applications are made for 25,000 trout when the water named may not support more than 5,000. The question of food for the fish seems not to be considered, and really it is of vital importance. Without food in abundance fish will not thrive any more than farm stock. Last year the applications for black bass amounted in the aggregate to several millions, while the State by strenuous effort was able to obtain less than 20,000, and some of them had to be purchased. One application called for 1,000,000 black bass for Lake Ontario when we were looking to this lake to furnish a small number of black bass for other waters. During thirteen years of the life of the New York Fish Commission a total of 8,043 small-mouthed and 4,821 large-mouthed bass were distributed, or a grand total of 12,864; and from this it will be seen how idle it is to ask for black bass in million lots.

A dozen adult black bass thoroughly protected will do wonders in the way of stocking a pond.

Food for Fish.

A trout stream can be more certainly stocked by planting 5,000 fry annually in the headwater rivulets of the stream than by turning in 25,000 in one year and leaving it to fate. If there is no food for the fish in the stream planted, it is simply a waste of fish to plant them. We have just received a letter on the subject, from which we make an extract.

A good trout stream in this State seemed to lack fish food, and it was suggested to a resident at its headwaters to plant shrimps for food. He not only planted the shrimps—obtained from the Caledonia Station—but procured a lot of trout eggs from the United States Fish Commission and hatched and planted them. A small pond was built on a tributary stream, and in it the fry were placed and reared until they were fingerlings, when they were allowed to run down into the main stream. The letter says: "Our river holds out wonderfully well and the trout are fat, showing plenty of food. I think the shrimps I put in account for the condition of the trout. I do not know anything about the shrimps in the river, but do know that since they were planted the trout have grown noticeably fatter. I do know, however, that the shrimps that I put in the little pond multiplied wonderfully. For once when I drew it down the bottom was fairly alive with them, and I have no doubt but there are millions upon millions in the river. I think that the question of food supply for the fish in our streams and ponds is of the utmost importance, and I also know that the fry we hatched and fed in our pond for weeks after the sac was absorbed were worth very much more for stocking. In fact, planting fry as soon as the sac is

absorbed is largely a waste of effort, judging from my own experience."

Fish and Game Laws.

The language of the various sections of the game law relating to the use of nets in different waters is loosely worded. In one section the size of the mesh is described by length of bar, in another as "suitable meshes," and in others the size of the mesh is not mentioned. We would recommend that the size of the mesh be explicitly stated where nets are permitted to take commercial fishes, and so far as possible the netting laws be made uniform in their application.

The present law provides an open season for catching black bass beginning on May 30 and ending Jan. 1. The continuance of this open season is a menace to the future of this species of the fish in the waters of the State.

Black bass spawn all through the month of June, and to open the season during the breeding time is most ill advised, and no amount of artificial stocking within the means of the Commission will make up for the waste of killin g spawning bass. It is difficult for the State to obtain any large number of black bass at this time, even by purchase, and every section that is visited to obtain bass for transplanting protests most vigorously. The black bass is the one fish of all hook-and-line fishes that guards its spawning bed during the development of the ova, and watches over the brood of young fish after they are hatched, so they really require more consideration as to length of close season than any other fish in the State. When cold weather approaches, black bass gather on deep shoals and lie partly dormant, as a rule, until warm weather returns. Within recent years this habit of the black bass has led to their destruction in some waters, as their winter habitat has been sought out by unthinking men and the bass have been pulled from their winter quarters in a scandalous manner. We would suggest that the open season for black bass fishing begin on July 1 and close on Oct. 15.

The "landlocked salmon" of the game law is no other than the sea salmon with a fresh-water habitat. And yet the law presents the inconsistency of limiting the legal length at which the anadromous fish may be killed to 18in., while the fish with a local home may be legally slaughtered when, in its babyhood, it reaches the length of 6in. Landlocked salmon run from the lakes into tributary streams to spawn, and the young remain in the streams for two years before going down to the waters of the lakes, and during the two years in the streams grow to exceed 6in. in length, and it is almost a criminal waste of raw material to permit a 6in. baby salmon weighing 2oz. to be killed, when if allowed a chance for its life it will grow into a magnificent fish of 25 to 30lbs. in weight. We would suggest that the legal limit of length at which salmon and landlocked salmon may be killed should be made identical, 18in.

Section 143 of the game law provides that "eel pots of a form and character such as may be prescribed by the rules of the Commissioners of Fisheries may be used in any waters not inhabited by trout, lake trout, salmon trout, or landlocked salmon." Eels are notorious spawn eaters, and as such seriously interfere with the propagation of better food fishes by natural processes, and if the Commissioners had power to set eel baskets in waters containing *salmonidæ* for the purpose of taking eels that come on to the spawning beds to eat the spawn of trout, it would aid materially in minimizing the devastation from this cause.

Carp.

The Commissioners feel that they must in the future discourage the planting of German carp in any of the waters of the State that may contain other fish. It is no more desirable as a food fish than the common sucker, and instead of being a strict vegetarian, as was heralded when introduced from Europe, it has been convicted of eating spawn and the fry of better fish.

Beaver.

There is a colony of beaver near the Adirondack hatchery, probably the only one in this State, and if this rare animal, supposed to have become extinct in New York, is to be preserved, there is urgent necessity for the enactment of a law to protect them at all seasons. During the past year a beaver of this colony was killed and then it was found that there was no law for their protection.

By every means in our power we would encourage the formation of fish and game protective associations in every county and town in the State. Already many societies of this kind have been organized, and they are not only public educators of the objects and aims of fish and game laws, and supporters of this Commisson in its work, but they do much to enforce the laws and stand as a menace to law breakers in the communities where they exist. The observance of fish and game laws is largely a matter of education; the first lessons were most difficult to learn, but great strides have been made in this direction during the past ten years, and the fish and game associations should have full credit for their share in it.

Adirondack Deer.

At the close of the deer shooting season in 1895 this Commission made a systematic investigation to determine the number of deer killed in the counties including the Forest Preserve. It was the first attempt to make a careful and thorough canvass of deer killed in this State. For this purpose the Adirondack region was divided into 161 districts, and 249 separate reports were received. A recapitulation shows that a total of 4,900 deer were killed —2,207 being bucks and 2,693 being does. As to the manner of killing, 1,233 were killed by night hunting, 2,694 by hounding and 973 by still-hunting. In view of this enormous slaughter—for we are convinced that the returns are accurate as far as can be obtained—we would recommend that further and more stringent laws be enacted to preserve the deer from extinction either by a shorter season, by regulating the manner of killing, or both.

Utah Legislation.

A LARGE meeting of Utah county people, comprising fishermen, hunters, sportsmen and fish and game dealers, was held in the county court house, to agree upon suggestions to be furnished to the Legislature. The following recommendations were agreed upon, and a committee was appointed to present them to the Legislature and urge their enactment:

To the Legislature of the State of Utah:

We, the representatives of the people mostly interested in the fish and game laws of Utah county, present the following recommendations for your earnest consideration:

1. That we be allowed to export fish and game to other States and Territories.
2. That the season for angling for trout remain as it is now, and that the angling for black bass shall not commence until July 1, instead of June 15; that seining be allowed for common fish between Sept. 15 of each year and the first day of May following, providing that each person using a seine shall pay a license and also give bonds for $500, conditioned on the faithful observance of the law.
3. That the seiners be released from paying the commissioner's fees.
4. That the commissioner be allowed very lenient privileges in regard to making arrests or searching parties or their effects before obtaining warrants; and further, that the commissioner's and deputies' salaries be paid annually, one-half by the State and one-half by the county, that he may be able to devote his full time.
5. That no seine be allowed to be drawn in any natural stream or within one-half mile from the center of the mouth of any mountain stream or body of water connecting two other bodies of water.
6. That any or all persons be allowed to catch carp any time of the year with spear or line.
7. That it shall be unlawful for any person to sell, take, kill, destroy or have in his possession any trout, mountain herring or imported fish which have been taken from the public waters of this State, less than 6in. long, excepting carp; that until otherwise provided it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to catch, offer for sale or have in their possession any catfish, rock bass or whitefish.
8. That Section 12 of the fish laws of 1894 be adopted, with the addition of the penalty for this offense being placed at not less than $50 or over $300.
9. That the present laws for the protection of game and birds remain as they are, with the exception that the season for the killing of deer be closed on Nov. 15 instead of Dec. 1.

Utah Fish and Game Interests.

[From the report of Commissioner B. Milton Musser.]

IN January, 1894, and in answer to my appeal, 200,000 lake trout eggs reached me by express from Northville, Mich., but they arrived in a heated condition and were practically valueless. I regret this very greatly, because the lake trout is a fine fish, and no doubt would thrive in our waters. Being also anxious to introduce the brook trout, or speckled trout of the East, I asked for and received 2,000 fry (about 3in. long) from Leadville, Colo. Five hundred of these I planted in Salt Lake City Creek, and 1,500 in Utah Lake.

During the month of March last, a car with a princely consignment of 2,000,000 whitefish eggs reached Salt Lake. These were hatched on the car opposite Pleasant Grove and put in the lake at that point, in most excellent condition. I have no doubt but what they are doing well. In a letter received from Mr. Newel, Fish and Game Commissioner of Utah county, this passage occurs: "In regard to the whitefish, I firmly believe that Mr. Andrew Madsen (an experienced fisherman) saw some eight or ten of them last, as he is well acquainted with all the fish we have; he says he never saw anything like them before. They were under his boat and are some 3in. long." This to me is most glorious news. The whitefish is one of the best fresh-water fishes. They develop rapidly and multiply to the tune of 20,000 to 70,000 to one spawner.

In August last I delicately felt my way for another consignment of whitefish for Bear Lake, assuring the Commissioner that not only Utah, but Idaho and Wyoming, would be the beneficiaries, as the north half of the lake is in Idaho and a long stretch of Bear River runs through Wyoming.

These are promised on condition that I again procure transportation. I am also perfecting arrangements to secure a few thousand landlocked salmon fry for Bear, Weber and Sevier rivers, and Utah Lake.

As an experiment I have planted in a lakelet south of this city a few black bass, crappie, rock bass, whitefish and brook trout, all of which, I learn, are doing well.

In July I planted about 100 gold and silver fish in Utah Lake; many of these were spawners.

In November following I received from Neosho, Mo., 190 rock bass; 100 of these I sent to Commissioner Crookston, Logan, to be planted in Logan River; seventy I put into Utah Lake, and the remainder in the lakelet above noted. The same car brought brook trout for Messrs. Welby, Wilson, James *et al.*, which I secured for them.

Nov. 25, 1894, Mr. J. Frank Ellis wrote me: "In compliance with your request of the 20th inst., your application has been changed from golden ides to (European) trench. These will probably be sent to you next season."

A great number of applicants for black bass spawners for private ponds and lakelets have been honored. I have seen a number of bass that weighed 5lbs. apiece when dressed. A great many people say that they like the bass even better than mountain trout, and the local fish vendors assert that bass is the best seller on the market. I regret to learn that a large if not the largest percentage of the catches have been expressed to points in Colorado, where the shipper no doubt received a higher price for them than he could realize in Utah. This, to my way of thinking, is all wrong, and should be promptly stopped, for I have not intentionally labored for these many years to secure the best fishes for Utah waters and Utah's people to have them caught and carted out of the territory for the benefit of those who snap their fingers at our discomfiture. Let Utah's citizens first be fed, and when the supply exceeds the demands of their tables it will then be soon enough to enter the byways of our neighbors for appetites to appease. We should stop the exportation of our fish. What a crime to permit our fish and game to be exported, and oblige local consumers to eat the often tainted imported articles and pay express charges and commissions to middlemen. In my opinion the bass should be protected one year more from all takers. This was intended when I first planted them, and I had a four-years'-catch-them-not clause put into the law, but the last Assembly, on the solicitation of ill-advised and selfish persons, canceled two years of the inhibition.

Among the most formidable enemies of the fish are several kinds of worthless birds, such as the pelican, blue crane, and several kinds of fish hawks, loons, "squaks," fish ducks, etc., which I am credibly informed "actually catch more fish than the fishermen." I am also told that pelicans by the thousands from Pelican Island, Salt Lake, swarm the lakes of Millard county, and that they seine the fish almost as artfully as the experienced fishermen. In imitation of fishermen, they will surround an area of water and gradually close up the semi-circle, driving their prospective prey into shallow water and on to the beach; then, after appeasing their own appetites, they load their pouches and wing their way homeward laden with food for the young. Skunks, weasels and crows, too, are very troublesome, in that they eat the eggs of the wild ducks and geese. The crows carry large numbers of eggs in their talons to the nests of their young. A very small bounty, it is believed, would result in decimating the fish and egg-eating birds and animals so very destructive to fish and game; and why, let me ask, should we spend money in prosecuting human poachers and violators of the fish and game laws, and permit worthless birds and animals, which are infinitely more destructive, to go scot free? This, I take it, is not a matter confined to one or two localities, but applies to almost every county in the State.

Many of the counties are without fish and game commissioners, and in consequence the lawless have it pretty much their own way. However, a goodly number of arrests have been made and fines imposed by commissioners and others acting under instructions from local officers.

Uintah, Carbon and Grand counties are especially exposed to violations of the fish and game laws. Neither has a fish and game commissioner to enforce the statute. I venture the assertion that there are more infractions of particularly the game law in the three counties named than in all the other counties of Utah combined. Within the last two or three months there have been three shipments of venison (the last shipment amounting to 11 tons) and several consignments of deer hides aggregating, I am told, several tons, all from Vernal, the hides being consigned to Chicago. I believe the last shipment of 11 tons of venison was in violation of law, and the lawless could have been arrested and the venison confiscated had the county officers promptly done their whole duty in the premises. Being handicapped for funds, I could not personally undertake the arrest and punishment of the offenders, and with all my urgent appeals by wire and mail to effect these ends, those whose plain duty it was to execute the laws seemed stolidly indifferent, and permitted the offenders with their unlawful booty to escape over the Utah line. The officers knew that the business was unlawful (as the railway officials would not handle the meat), yet they witnessed its reloading and the freighters wending their way through Carbon and Grand counties without protest. When the venison reached Grand Junction, Colo., Sheriff Innis promptly arrested the men in charge and seized the venison and held the whole outfit subject to the order of the local court. The trial was held, the chief law breaker was jailed for sixty days and fined $300, the venison was confiscated and sent to Denver and disposed of according to law. Had our officers promptly acted, no doubt several offenders could have been convicted and the venison saved to Utah, where, without question to my mind, it rightfully belonged, which conclusion is made more apparent by the fact that the single conviction secured at Grand Junction was effected on the sole testimony of witnesses from Utah, who, at my urgent invitation, went from Price to Colorado to testify in the case. Uintah, Carbon and Grand counties should each have a wide-awake and thorough fish and game commissioner. The general outlet for these counties is the Rio Grande Western Railway, which runs through Carbon and Grand counties, while Price is the nearest shipping point for the people of Uintah county.

The Kennel.

FIXTURES

BENCH SHOWS.

Feb 19 to 22.—Westminster Kennel Club's twentieth annual dog show, Madison Square Garden, New York. James Mortimer, Supt.

March 3 to 6.—City of the Straits Kennel Club. R. Humffrey Roberts, Sec'y, 6 Merrill Block, Detroit. Entries close Feb. 20.

March 10 to 13.—Chicago.—Mascoutah Kennel Club's bench show John L. Lincoln, Sec'y.

March 17 to 20.—St. Louis Kennel Club's show, St. Louis. W. Hutchinson, Sec'y.

April 20 to 23.—New England Kennel Club's twelfth annual show. D. E. Loveland, Sec'y.

May 6 to 9.—Pacific Kennel Club's fifth annual show. H. W. Orear, Sec'y.

FIELD TRIALS.

Feb. 10.—West Point, Miss.—The Field Trial Champion Association's first trial. W. B. Stafford, Sec'y.

Sept. 2.—Morris, Man.—Manitoba Field Trials Club. John Wootton, Sec'y.

Oct. 28.—Greene county, Pa.—The Monongahela Valley Game and Fish Protective Association's second annual trials. S. B. Cummings Sec'y, Pittsburg.

THE BULL TERRIER CLUB'S RESOLUTIONS.

IN the last issue of FOREST AND STREAM Messrs. Foote and Schellhass made a reply to the extraordinary resolutions of the Executive Committee of the Bull Terrier Club of America. It may be questioned as to whether they acted wisely in dignifying with a reply such a display of peevish ill nature and bad taste. The more correct treatment might have been to ignore it entirely as an act of super-officiousness, ill-temper and bad judgment, which meant no more than resentment, and had no force outside of the minds of its authors.

But, accepting the resolutions as an expression of temper and opinion of the Bull Terrier Club, what a harmful intolerance of legitimate criticism is displayed by it; what an intention is shown to intimidate all opposition; what a determination to have its own wishes prevail, regardless of the wishes or interests of all others!

The Bull Terrier Club has not been long in existence, nor has it been long in the American Kennel Club, and for these reasons alone it might not have been amiss for it to have assumed only the same rights and privileges as all other clubs, instead of adopting a policy of intimidation, a policy which is sure in the end to recoil disastrously on it; for on the one hand any number of "be it resolveds" have no vitality when they proceed from arrogance and assumption, but on the other hand they do lower the standing of the body which passes them.

Every delegate had a perfect right fully and freely to discuss the A. K. C. affairs, and the right was equally good whether a delegate was for or against cropping.

The liberty of speech has been held dear by all Americans, even some years before the Bull Terrier Club in its feeble way tried to muzzle it.

Any direct censure of Dr. Foote and Mr. Schellhass for their action as delegates of the A. K. C. is quite as direct against all other delegates who voted in favor of the amendment against cropping. To single out those two men for expressing the sentiments of the anti-croppers cannot separate them invidiously from others who did the same thing. It is really a censure of the A. K. C.

When men have the manhood to maintain what they believe to be right, when they are striving to promote the general good, when they are in authority to express their minds and to act officially as they are instructed to do or as they deem best, no upstart opposition should have a grain of weight against them. The A. K. C. affords legitimate channels for legislation, and in those channels is the proper place for official action.

The A. K. C. has not only power to abolish cropping if its members deem it for the general good to do so, but it has the power also to discipline—even to the point of suspension or expulsion—any club or clubs which are inimical to it or which do not know what constitutes decent behavior. Once sanction the doctrine that one club is at liberty to censure the delegates of other clubs because those delegates do not agree with it, and harmony and progress is at an end in the A. K. C. jurisdiction. If one club censures the delegates of another, that club in turn can censure the censor; so that what should be a dignified federation of clubs might in time degenerate into a modified Donnybrook Fair procedure. If the kennel world is to be one of public interest and progress, the right-thinking delegates should see that the new order of intimidation, impotent though it be, is brought to a quick end. There is a vast difference between legitimate criticism and gratuitous abuse.

OUR FIRST DOG.

Editor Forest and Stream:

We were two little boys, living on a new farm in the woods. We wanted a dog. Of course we did. There was never a live boy that did not want a dog, but mother did not want a dog, and the more she did not want him the more we did want him.

After five years of asking and being refused by mother, there came a litter of puppies to one of our intimate friends and neighbors, and we were offered one of them. Then we laid siege to mother and plead the cause to such effect that she consented, and no doubt we love her better for it to this day.

The puppy's mother was a smooth-haired Black and Tan terrier and his father a long-legged "yaller dog." The pup was colored after his mother, but shaped like the father, and as we bore him home in triumph one bright Sunday morning we agreed that he was the handsomest pup and was bound to make the smartest dog in the world.

The pup was consigned to a box in the kitchen and we went to church, but our thoughts that day ran more on the pup than on the church services.

When we returned from church one of the neighbors was waiting for us, a man whom we had always feared and hated on account of his evil countenance and bullying ways. He said he had the promise of that pup, had come for him and was going to have him. There ensued a war of words, which ended by the fellow going away full of threats against us and swearing he would kill the pup rather than let us keep him. Next morning the pup was christened Watch and given the liberty of the premises. Ten minutes afterward the sounds of a great commotion were heard in the barn lot. The mothers of a half dozen broods of young chickens had combined to defend their chicks from the pup, whom they took for some strange varmint. When we got there we ran six old hens in a heap, squalling, pecking, spurring and flopping, while from the midst of the mass came puppy yells of agony and terror. Scores of little chickens were "cheeping" and running everywhere, and several lay where they had been trampled to death in the battle.

After the affair was over, mother said she would not be troubled that way, and Thomas should come and get the pup. Then, for the first time in our lives, we rose in open rebellion and said that Thomas should not have the pup. We even went so far as to declare that we would kill Thomas before we would give up the pup. Then we plead for the pup and laid the whole blame on the old hens until our tears were too much for mother, and we carried our point.

A few days later an uproar broke forth in the hog lot, where we found the pup was being chased by some furious old sows, and in immediate danger of being torn to pieces, for he was too badly rattled to get out of the inclosure. Armed with clubs, we sprang to the rescue, thinking nothing of danger to ourselves. While I clubbed the vicious brutes, brother grabbed the pup and threw him over the fence; but in spite of my clubbing, one vicious old sow sprang at my brother as he took hold of the fence to climb over and caught him by the seat of his trousers. He held to the fence, the sow held to the trousers, and I plied the club over her head with all my strength.

Presently suspenders and buttons yielded to the strain and brother got over the fence, leaving the trousers with the hog, which soon tore them to shreds. Here was trouble indeed, for the loss of those trousers would be charged to the pup; but when father and mother heard the story, they were too glad over our fortunate escape to regret the loss of the trousers.

Next washday the indigo bag disappeared, and we found the pup trying to make a meal of it. Mother said indigo was poison and hoped it would kill the nasty pup. His mouth was thoroughly dyed with the stuff. Full of anxiety and almost hoping against hope, we washed out his mouth as best we could with soap and water, the pup resisting to his utmost, and his sharp teeth drew the blood from hands and fingers in a number of places. Many a laugh have we had over it since, but there were no smiles in the party at the time. After the washing we concluded a dose of tincture of camphor ought to be given, so I held him on his back between my knees, and held his mouth open with both hands, while brother poured the camphor from the bottle. I don't know just what happened next. I know the bottle was broken, and the pup went through a lot of contortions which we thought were his death struggles, and nothing but the thought of the broken camphor bottle and the punishment that was sure to follow kept us from yelling for help. The pup ran under the house and refused to be called out. We could not bear the idea of him dying under there all alone, so I crawled under after him. There was barely room for me between the ground and the floor, and the pup met my approach with snaps and growls. I did not hesitate, but grabbed him by an ear and backed out.

Father now appeared on the scene and sent us to the woodhouse, which was our steady job when there was nothing else to do. The pup ran away toward the barn and we saw no more of him that day; but the thought of his dangerous condition and the fear of being brought to judgment over the broken camphor bottle made it a day of misery for us.

That night we thought best to explain about the camphor, take the consequences and have it off our minds, which we did, and were let off without punishment.

Next morning the pup showed up, seeming entirely well; so once more life looked bright to us. A few weeks later the pup took a sudden and great aversion to me; would not come near me, and was very suspicious. I could not account for it, until brother said it was the camphor I had put on my sore toe a few minutes before; and we afterward always found the pup suspicious when we had any odor of camphor about us.

Things from now on ran fairly smooth with us until the latter part of the summer; but one afternoon brother came to me looking so troubled that I asked him if he was sick.

"No," said he, "but Watch is."

"He will get over it in a little while," said I.

"No, he won't," said brother. "He is awful sick. He's going to die. He's thrown his insides up."

At that I laughed, but he broke into tears, and said, "Come out here and see if you don't believe it."

I went out and found a handful of intestines on the ground and the pup making violent efforts to eject the rest of himself. It looked like a hopeless case, and we stood helplessly by waiting for the end, which we thought must come very soon. After several minutes of violent effort he threw up the head and two feet of a chicken. Then we remembered that we had killed a chicken for supper about an hour before. Neither of us said a word. We just went back to the woodhouse and sawed wood.

In spite of his mishaps and many puppyish pranks that often got him into disgrace, he grew apace and learned a lot of good dog sense. He was never gifted to the extent of some of the dogs we read about, but he knew enough to spot any stray hog that got with ours, and to note any change of the farm animals from one field to another. If he was with us when such changes were made he considered it all right, but otherwise he was after the stock as soon as he saw them in a different field. He was alert and full of watchfulness for our interests, and saved many a young chicken from the "varmints" that used to prey on them.

One day he "treed" a mink in a big pile of rubbish close by the barn. The whole family, hired man and dog surrounded the pile and proceeded to tear it down. In spite of our watching, the mink slipped out and was 60yds. on his way to the woods before he was seen by any of us, and but for the dog we would have torn the pile down and been wondering to this day what ever became of that mink. Just as the mink was getting out of sight over a little knoll, the dog saw him and giving an excited yelp straightened himself in hot pursuit. Dog and mink disappeared over the knoll, followed by the writer, armed with grandfather's old three dollar shotgun. The chase was alongside a rail fence. Seeing his legs were too short to save him, the mink climbed the fence and when the boy saw him was running along the top rails, coming toward the boy, who laid the gun along the top rail and waited motionless until the mink was within 2ft. of the gun muzzle and coming right toward it. The dog was keeping him so busy he did not notice boy or gun. Then the boy pulled the trigger and the mink was knocked 15ft.—that is, part of him was; the rest was spattered all round. The charge struck him fairly in the breast and laid him wide open from the collar to the tail.

Then the boy let out a lusty whoop of triumph and threw his ragged old straw hat into the air and the pup pounced an the biggest piece of mink and shook it into several more pieces.

For nearly ten years this dog was our constant companion on the farm, but at last disease overtook him, and as the whole family stood around him one bright Sunday afternoon, while his eyes grew dim and the loving and faithful old heart ceased beating, none of us were ashamed of the tears that dampened all our cheeks. We buried him in a neat box at the side of the garden. Peace to his bones.

O. H. HAMPTON.

Beagle Field Trials.

NANUET, N. Y., Jan. 30.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* We have now had beagle field trials for five or six successive years; and practical results toward the advance and betterment of the breed as are liable to accrue from such work should have manifested themselves by this time in a tangible form. Has it?

A mild "yes" and an emphatic "no" would each be suitable answers. Having used and put to a practical test such ideas as have been advanced heretofore, I think the time has come when new theories should be introduced and reduced to practical working methods, to acquire the purpose of a specialty club, *i. e.*, advancement of the breed.

As bench shows are now conducted, a useless dog for all practical purposes may become a prominent champion. The same principle applies to field trials, inasmuch as the most wretched specimen in form may acquire high honors there, and how does either one advance the breed in the broad sense of the term?

With a view to overcoming what is now a radical weakness (from this standpoint) I propose introducing at next quarterly meeting of the National Beagle Club a scoring system for reducing each dogs field and bench qualities to an average, thereby establishing and recording each dog's actual merit in both forms, winners, losers and all.

Under such a system each entry at trials will be first scored for its actual bench show merit by a practical judge of such form. Then the dog to pass into the hands of judges for field quality form and each dog scored at the termination of each heat. Those scoring above a certain average (for field work) to pass into the second series, the same to apply for third series with a higher average. The winners of each class to be those scoring the highest combined average of both field and bench qualities, and awards to be rendered by the field trial committee.

Under this system each owner to receive a certificate of each dog's work and form, and unless radical defects may be discovered in my calculations, the most practical results can thus be obtained in advancing a breed by a specialty club.

This, of course, is a somewhat brief synopsis of a radical change and is a subject matter for reflection and discussion, and eventually to be reduced to a satisfactory working system.

I bring this matter out at this time for two reasons: First, to draw from the many members and breeders and others a liberal exchange of views through the ever available and obliging press, and secondly to give other beagle clubs than the National sufficient time to consider, act or adopt the scoring system if deemed advisable.

H. S. KREUDER,
Proprietor Rockland Beagle Kennels.

United States Field Trials.

WEST POINT, Miss., Feb. 4.—*Special to Forest and Stream:* The grounds are in fair condition after the recent heavy rains. Birds are plentiful.

There were ten starters in the Pointer Derby: Sister Sue, Wrestler, Nabob, Rip Saw, Tory Jessamine, India, Ridgeview Cash, Virginia, Cracker Jack, and Hessie D. The judges were A. Merriman and Theo. Sturgis. Following were the winners: First, India; second, Nabob; third, Rip Saw; fourth, Tory Jessamine; fifth, Sister Sue.

There are 12 starters in the Setter Derby: Sam T. Forzando, Harwick, Feu Follet, Tory Fashion, Bob Taylor, Arapahoe, Domino, Gleam's Ruth, Conor, Accelerando, Marie's Sport.

B. WATERS.

The Altcar Produce Stakes.

FOR dog and bitch puppies at $20 each, half forfeit; or if declared out by Sept. 1, $5 forfeit; or if declared out by June 1, only $3 forfeit. Entries, which must be accompanied by $3, close March 15 Second forfeit of $3 must be paid on or before June 1. Third forfeit of $5 must be paid on or before Sept. 1; balance $10 must be paid on or before 6 P. M. the night of the draw, viz. Oct. 20.

Moneys: To winner, $100 added by the Altcar Coursing Club of America and 35 per cent. of all moneys; runner up, $50 added by the Altcar Coursing Club of America and 25 per cent of all moneys; third and fourth, 10 per cent. each of all the moneys; four winners of two courses, 5 per cent. each of all moneys. (Should more than thirty-two dogs start, division of moneys will be made satisfactory.)

Conditions: Breeding and date of birth of puppies and breeder's name must be furnished the secretary at time of entry. All payments of forfeits must be made promptly to the secretary-treasurer.

Ten per cent. deducted for expenses.

T. W. BARTELS, Sec'y-Treas.

City of the Straits Kennel Club.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 1.—Inclosed please find advance proof of our Premium List, which will be issued on the 3d inst. More interest is being shown this year, locally, than ever before in the Dog Show and we are getting a number of inquiries from outside, and I am very sure that we will have one of the finest exhibitions of beagles ever had in America. Will you please notice that our entries close on Feb. 20. R. HUMPHREYS-ROBERTS.

The premiums are $15 for first and $10 for second in mastiffs and St. Bernards; and $10 and $5 for all other classes, with $3 for third in pointers and setters.

POINTS AND FLUSHES.

We have received from the Olombia Publishing Co. a copy of a work entitled "Heads, or In the Wilderness," which professes to treat of an outing in the Adirondacks, but which in reality is devoted to the introduction and advocacy of a religious doctrine. The outing features serve as a vehicle for presenting and advertising the doctrine in a pleasing form. It would seem the better way, if the doctrine has merit, to strip it of pretense and present it by itself. Told as it is here the new doctrine is not clearly to be comprehended.

The following is taken from a copy of the New York *Clipper*, published many years ago: "The Mayor of Janesville, Wis., is becoming perfectly desperate. He issues a formal proclamation in the words following, threatening death to some of his fellow-citizens: 'Take Notice! All persons residing in the city of Janesville, owning or having in his or her possession any dog or bitch, and suffering the same to run at large without being securely muzzled, so as to prevent their biting, will be killed, if found running at large after April 15.'"

The correspondents who have no names to sign, or having names do not care to sign them, would do well to ponder over the reasons why anonymous queries are not answered in our columns.

The sheep industry of South Carolina is receiving special consideration by the State government. Recently a bill was passed by the House in substance providing that a dog found "committing any depredation," such as stealing eggs, killing poultry or sheep, "or destroying any other property," "or showing symptoms of hydrophobia," upon any premises other than those of the owner of the dog, could be killed lawfully, and the proof that he was so depredating shall amount to a full and complete defense. In respect to the matter of hydrophobia or rabies no proof is required, the owner of the premises being the sole judge of whether the dog is afflicted with rabies or not. The bill, shorn of its circumlocution, provides that an owner can kill any dog which comes on his premises if he chooses to do so.

Mr. A. J. Gleason, manager of the Kinloch Kennels, Kinloch, Mo., will take some of his dogs South soon to give them a term of schooling on quail.

An excellent opportunity for securing a really first-class field dog for Southern shooting is offered in our advertising columns this week by Mr. C. Du Bois Wagstaff, Babylon, L. I. Mr. Wagstaff advertises two dogs, pointer and setter. Among other new advertisements the Seaforth Kennels advertise the St. Bernards champion Melrose King and Sir Hugh at stud, also puppies for sale. Henry Hood, East Orange, N. J., offers a prize-winning bull terrier brood bitch, and the Standard Kennel, Georgetown, N. Y., beagle bitches. "Pointer Dogs," Cincinnati, advertises a brace of field dogs.

We have received for the Manice Dachshunde challenge Cup, to be competed for at the New York show, the entries of Mr. Manice's Princetta, Junetta and Minnie, and Mr. Matthews's Polly Finders. The entries properly closed with the A. K. C. entries. It is possible that other entries may be accepted later, if so we shall announce them next week.

Yachting.

[Other yachting news on first page.]

ACCORDING to the London *Daily Chronicle* of Feb. 4, Lord Dunraven has gone to Sandringham to confer with the Prince of Wales, commodore of the Royal Yacht Squadron, as to his future action.

UNDOUBTEDLY the one weak point of the committee's report is that in which it expresses a confidence that will be shared by very few—that Lord Dunraven is eagerly awaiting an opportunity to do what little is still left to him in the way of an honorable amend by a full and frank apology. We have very little hope that the anticipations of the committee will be realised, or that Lord Dunraven will even now admit that he is and has been in the wrong. Some criticism has been directed against the committee because it has dealt so leniently with his Lordship, and because it has not proposed some punishment adequate to the offense of which it has actually found him guilty

Whether the committee is wrong or right in this we do not propose to argue; it is quite enough that it has to all appearances conducted a fair and impartial investigation, in which the whole truth has been laid bare; the question of its future dealings with Lord Dunraven is one that may well be left to the New York Y. C. as a body. That in the continued absence of a retraction and apology some fitting punishment will be inflicted can hardly be doubted from the present temper of the members.

An interesting question that suggests itself in this connection is the possible action of the Royal Yacht Squadron. Thus far the Squadron has devoted its efforts solely to keeping clear of the whole matter; but it is quite obvious that it must sooner or later take some positive action either indorsing or repudiating its chosen representative. The position is a very plain one; the Royal Yacht Squadron has guaranteed to the New York Y. C. that Lord Dunraven was a gentleman and a yachtsman fully worthy to represent it. This representative is now in the position of having publicly preferred charges of foul dealing against a member of the New York Y. C., its representative in the international races. These charges having now been proved groundless, the Royal Yacht Squadron can in no way ignore the public acts of its representative, but must express itself in approval or disapproval; in fact, in our view of interclub ethics, the club indorsing a challenger should be prepared to accept full responsibility for all of his actions throughout the entire contest. It is only by the enforcement of this reasonable rule that clubs holding valuable challenge trophies can be protected from challenges by improper or irresponsible individuals. If a club is prepared to indorse as its representative a man of unknown or doubtful reputation, it must be held strictly to account for his conduct.

The methods pursued by Lord Dunraven are only too characteristic of his whole career as a yachtsman—erratic, vacillating and altogether devoid of any rational principle. The charges made by him have one plain meaning, and one only: that Mr. C. Oliver Iselin has been guilty of fraud and cheating. In making his charges, no matter how they were worded, he must have known, as all the world did, exactly what they meant; and yet he has shirked and equirmed and quibbled over simple English words until, in his examination by the opposing counsel, he was compelled to admit that *c-h-e-a-t* spelled cheat and was synoumous with fraud. What little respect he might have claimed by boldly formulating his charges and standing by them has been forfeited by consistent cowardice throughout; by his denial that in making such charges he was imputing fraud to Mr. Iselin personally; by his announcement on his arrival in New York that he did not come as a complainant, but only to aid the club; and by his sudden and unexpected disappearance when the only honorable course open to him was obviously to remain until the conclusion of the inquiry and then to make the most complete apology possible. From first to last, his conduct in the matter has been craven and childish, and utterly lacking in that boldness which of itself commands a certain amount of respect, even from an adversary.

At last the long-expected report of the special committee, accompanied by the evidence, has been made public; and every one interested may form his own conclusions from the evidence. The report itself is in every way an able one, and save in the foolish and abortive attempt to secure absolute secrecy for an indefinite time, the whole work of the committee reflects the highest credit upon the five gentlemen to whom this unpleasant task was allotted by the New York Y. C. The report is clear, logical and conclusive, and no comment of ours could add to it in any way. The committee has seen fit to go no further than to pass upon the evidence, and has left the question of the punishment of the offender entirely to the club, contenting itself withfully exonerating Mr. Iselin and opening to his defamer a way for an apology. Incidentally it will be noticed that the report itself refutes the various "exclusive" rumors of the daily papers as to the proposed action of the committee which have appeared from day to day since the closing of the examination. The committee, in concluding, take pains to score severely, but deservedly, the New York *Herald* for the surreptitious publication of a part of the testimony.

There are many yachtsmen, British as well as American, who have feared above all things a "Scotch verdict"; that after such a lapse of time the truth as to Lord Dunraven's charges could not be ascertained, and that the dispute would live and rankle for years. To all such the evidence will be an agreeable disappointment, as from its nature and extent it is as convincing as could possibly be desired. On the side of the protestant the evidence is weak and faulty in the extreme, amounting to nothing more than that Lord Dunraven and several of his party thought that Defender was too deeply immersed. There is absolutely nothing in their presentment of the case to justify the serious charges of foul play and fraud.

The evidence for the defense, on the other hand, is not only most voluminous, including the direct testimony and cross-examination of witnesses by the score and the sworn depositions of others, but it deals with actual facts and figures, with surveys of the yacht made at different times and by independent parties; every detail of her ballasting is brought to light, and it is shown beyond doubt that such a fraud as is charged was clearly impossible. The evidence of Lord Dunraven alone would go far to convince most men that he had no case, but the evidence on behalf of Defender must convince all who take the trouble to read it.

Apart from the many vital points, there are some side issues which are of little importance, and which it is needless to waste time and space in discussing; the principal one being the apparent attempt to suppress the whole matter and Lord Dunraven's letter to Mr. Kersey, the latter's interview with ex-com. James D. Smith, and the cable message to the secretary of the Royal Yacht Squadron. There is more or less mystery about all this correspondence, which to all appearances is not worth the trouble of attempting to clear up.

In our opinion the most important of the side issues is that raised by Lord Dunraven in his charge that his request that the Cup committee should place men on each yacht until they could be measured was disregarded. As originally made, this charge reflected severely on Mr. Fish, the member of the committee who sailed on Valkyrie. Mr. Fish very wisely said nothing until the proper time came, and then he gave before the committee a clear, succinct and business-like statement of Lord Dunraven's first complaint, producing a written memorandum made by him at the time and submitted to Lord Dunraven for his approval. It is only necessary to compare the bold, positive and straightforward story of Mr. Fish with the lame and uncertain statements of Lord Dunraven on the stand, failing to remember about the memorandum until all the details were recalled to him, to agree with the conclusion of the special committee that no demand was made by Lord Dunraven that men be placed aboard each yacht.

The Dunraven Inquiry.

The special meeting of the New York Y. C. called to receive the report of the special committee appointed to investigate the charges made by Lord Dunraven against Mr. C. Oliver Iselin was held on Jan. 31, with Com. Brown in the chair, and a very large attendance of members. The meeting was called to order at 9 o'clock, the members of the special committee being all present with the exception of Mr. E. J. Phelps, who was out of town. In his absence Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan read the report for the committee: The body of the report is as follows:

Upon cross-examination Lord Dunraven admitted in substance that he judged by the eye solely, and that the Defender might not have been sunk more than 2in.; that he could not be tied down to a definite statement in this respect; that the discharge hole mentioned was the only mark by which he was enabled to verify the accuracy of his observation; that in observing the vessel on the morning of the 7th, through the glass, he saw only her starboard side, the pipe hole being on the port side; that there was then a ripple on the water of 3 or 4in.; that at the distance of 200yds. he could not accurately estimate a difference in immersion; that the only other opportunity he had of observation that morning was when he rowed out to the Defender to put his representative on board, and passed round the port side; that he thought the bobstay bolt was about 12 or 14in. above the water on the 6th, and some 8 or 10in. on the 7th, judging from observation alone; that he thought the l.w.l. was lengthened by the increased immersion about 1ft., though he did not judge from that, but only from the apparent depth of the vessel in the water as compared with his recollection of her in the basin the day before.

The testimony of Mr. Glennie, who appeared before the committee in person, and of Mr. Ratsey, whose *ex-parte* statutory declaration was read, was also produced on the part of Lord Dunraven. These witnesses spent the night of Sept. 6 on board the City of Bridgeport with Lord Dunraven, and at about 5 o'clock in the morning of the 7th they rowed around the Defender in a small boat. Their evidence was to the same general effect as that of Lord Dunraven, on the point of the apparent increase in the immersion of the Defender.

Mr. Glennie placed the apparent immersion at about 1½in. more on the 7th than on the 6th.

Testimony to the same effect was also introduced in the shape of an *ex-parte* statutory declaration of Mr. Watson, the designer of the Valkyrie, who testified that on the morning of the first official measurement, at Erie Basin, he plainly saw above water the pipe hole mentioned by Lord Dunraven, but did not see the Defender on the morning of the race, and that on the day of the remeasurement he again saw the pipe hole above water.

Similar *ex-parte* declarations from Capts. Cranfield and Sycamore, of the Valkyrie, were also read. They confirmed from general observation the statement of Lord Dunraven as to the apparent increased immersion of the Defender, but neither of these witnesses saw the Defender except from the deck of the Valkyrie, at a distance of about 300yds.

Three other witnesses were mentioned by Lord Dunraven to the committee as persons whom he thought would give evidence to the same effect as above stated: Mr. Kersey, a resident of New York, who had been the representative of Lord Dunraven in the United States in matters connected with this match; the captain of the steamer City of Bridgeport, which was used at the races as a tender to the Valkyrie, and the pilot of the Valkyrie. These witnesses were not produced. It was not claimed that their evidence would be other than cumulative to that given by the other witnesses on the part of Lord Dunraven, and of the same character. Nevertheless the committee, on their own account, not being authorized to issue compulsory process for the attendance of witnesses, invited the attendance of Mr. Kersey, which he declined to give, stating as his reason the objection of those for whom he acted in his business. And they made such efforts as they could to obtain the other two witnesses, but without success. Mr. Young, the pilot, was at sea. Capt. Parker, of the City of Bridgeport, though quite willing to appear, was unable to attend.

It will be perceived, therefore, that considering this case in the first place, upon the evidence introduced on the part of Lord Dunraven alone, the only proof in support of the charge it involves consists in the opinions of the witnesses above referred to, formed merely by looking at the vessel in the water on two successive days, that on the latter day she was from 1¼ to 4in. lower in the water than on the former, and that these opinions were based solely upon the general appearance of the vessel as apparent to the eye, and upon no measurement or other data whatever by which they could be verified, excepting only that a pipe hole of about an inch in diameter, which on the first day was just at the water's edge, was the next day not to be seen. The committee attach no importance to the opinions of the witnesses who only saw the Defender from a distance of 200 or 300yds. There remain, therefore, but three persons—Mr. Glennie, Mr. Ratsey and Lord Dunraven himself—who ever got near enough to the Defender to see the pipe hole, even if it had been visible.

It is obvious that a very slight list of the vessel to starboard might have made this pipe hole visible on the first day, and that a similar list to port might have made it invisible on the second, quite irrespective of its actual position in reference to the l.w.l. A difference of 3 or 4in. in the distance of the bobstay bolt from the water might, if it existed, have easily occurred from a change in the trim of the vessel in consequence of the presence of the crew and their belongings in the forecastle or other temporary cause, bringing her a little down by the head. Lord Dunraven himself says in his publication, above quoted, that the difference in the height of the bobstay bolt above the water might result from an alteration in trim.

The Erie Basin, where the Defender was observed on the first day, is a small, entirely inclosed space, where the water is practically smooth. On the second day the Defender lay inside of Sandy Hook in the lower bay of New York, a large body of water open to the ocean for five or six miles on its easterly side. Its surface is necessarily at all times in motion, and during the night between the two days the wind had been blowing heavily. It is obvious that the difference in the condition of the water in which the Defender lay upon the two days might well have produced a difference of apparent immersion.

The fraud that is involved in the charge thus made, if it is found to be true, is a very grave one, utterly destructive to the reputation of all who should appear to have been concerned in it, and especially odious under the circumstances of a friendly contest between citizens of different countries, exciting international interest, and supposed to be conducted by gentlemen, upon a high plane of honor and mutual confidence.

From the magnitude and difficulty of the operation necessary to its consummation, it must unavoidably, if it occurred, have been participated in not only by Mr. Iselin and those concerned with him in the management of the Defender, but by all officers and crew of that vessel, and many others incidentally employed.

It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Herreshoff, the designer of the Defender, confirmed by other witnesses, that to have produced an increased immersion of 1in. on the Defender would have required 7,185lbs. of additional weight, or about three and a quarter long tons; that to have produced such an immersion of 3in. would have required about nine and three-quarters tons; and an immersion of 4in., about thirteen tons; and that an immersion of 1in. would have lengthened the l.w.l. 8in., and in the same proportion for each additional inch of immersion. If such a result was produced, therefore, all the weight thus shown to be required must have been removed from the vessel before the first measurement on the 6th, replaced during the night of that day, and again removed during the night of the 7th, in time for the remeasurement on the 8th. And this was Lord Dunraven's theory, as finally stated upon cross-examination.

Such a fraud should not even be charged without due regard, first, to the established character of those upon whom the imputation of guilt must fall; and second, to the kind and degree of the evidence upon which it rests. To justify even accusation, suspicion must at least be reasonable; yet upon the hearing before the committee, the evidence above summarized (and hereafter appended in full), so slight, so extremely liable to mistake, is all that is offered in justification of the charge publicly made in the London *Field*. It is not readily to be believed that any expert, however skillful, could determine by the eye, between one day and another, and under circumstances so diverse, a difference so trifling in the displacement of a vessel, especially one with which his previous acquaintance was small. Lord Dunraven himself had the candor to say that he did not claim that this evidence, even irrespective of anything that was shown to the contrary, established the truth of his charge; he did claim, however, that the omission of the Cup committee either to remeasure the Defender on the evening of the race or to put a representative on board to remain during the night, so far prevented the proof or disproof of his claim as to justify him in renewing it after the matter had been revived by the Cup committee's report of Oct. 24; and that point will be specially considered hereafter.

But the case was not left to stand upon the evidence thus far reviewed.

On the part of Mr. Iselin there was introduced the testimony of a large number of witnesses, including, besides his own, that of the designer of the Defender, the official measurer, the captain, all the officers and all the crew of the Defender, numbering thirty in all (excepting five seamen, who were shown to be at sea and therefore inaccessible), all the gentlemen who were on board the Defender at the time of the race and all other persons, so far as the committee could learn, who had such means of observation as enabled them to know any facts material to the issue. These witnesses were personally present, except thirteen seamen, whose testimony was taken by *ex-parte* affidavits.

By this evidence there was established, to the entire satisfaction of the committee, the facts now to be stated.

The Defender, by her original design, was built and intended to sail without any loose ballast whatever, all weight thought necessary being introduced into the keel by a single casting, to the amount of about 85 tons. This calculation was based upon the rule of the New York Y. C. requiring yachts to sail in such races with their tanks, fittings, bulkheads, etc., on board, as when prepared for ordinary use.

During all the sailing of the Defender after her completion down to the time of this race, including various trials with the Vigilant to determine which of those yachts should be entered in the competition for the Cup, the Defender had sailed without any loose ballast whatever, but with her tanks, fittings, etc., on board. She was measured officially for the trial races on Aug. 31, 1895, and her load waterline was then found to be 88.85ft. She sailed with this line in all races prior to the Cup race now in question, when her load waterline was found by the official measurement of Sept. 6 to be 88.45ft., a difference of but 4.8in. in length, corresponding to 3-5in. of immersion. She is a boat of unusual stability and power, and all the evidence, both scientific and practical, was to the effect that additional ballast beyond what she originally contained was not required, and would certainly have diminished rather than improved the speed of the boat. Such was the opinion at the time of the race of Mr. Herreshoff, the designer; Capt. Haff, her sailing master, and Mr. Iselin.

It is plain, therefore, that no motive existed for increasing the ballast of the Defender. It cannot be supposed that there could have been an intention to place the vessel upon a different trim from that previously determined by her designer and manager to be the best.

After the arrival of the Valkyrie in the United States it was found that she was stripped of her fittings, water tanks, bulkheads, etc., and not in a condition to comply with the rule of the New York Y. C. above mentioned. A clause was accordingly introduced in the detailed agreement for the Cup races, executed on Sept. 4, waiving that rule.

On Sept. 4 and 5 the Defender, while at New Rochelle, was stripped and had all her fittings, water tanks, bulkheads, etc., taken out of her, which were weighed and found to be about 7,000lbs. Before this material had been removed from the upper part of the vessel, Mr. Herreshoff and Mr. Iselin had estimated that its weight could be efficiently replaced by two tons of loose ballast in the hold. Two tons of lead, consisting of forty-two pigs, were therefore obtained from New York, carried by steamboat to New Rochelle, and there put in the hold. The weight of the material removed proved, however, to be greater than they had anticipated, and they accordingly decided to add one ton more of lead ballast; and another ton was thereupon sent from New York to the Erie Basin. On Sept. 6, the day of the first official measurement, at the Erie Basin, and prior to the measurement, this ton of lead, consisting of twenty-one pigs, was placed temporarily on the cabin floor of the Defender, above the place it was to occupy in the hold. On the evening of Sept. 6, the day before the race, it being found that this lead could not be stowed in the hold without the pigs being cut in two, it was carried on to the Hattie Palmer, her tender, which was alongside, and each of the twenty-one pigs was cut in two, carried back again, and stowed in the hold of the Defender.

About five tons of lead ballast were in like manner put on board the Valkyrie shortly before the measurements, some portion of which at the time of the first measurement was temporarily placed on her cabin floor.

It was very clearly proved that the Defender had not been lightened in any way before the first official measurement on Sept. 6, except by the taking out of the tanks, fittings, etc., above mentioned (the weight of which had been replaced by lead ballast to the extent indicated), and by the substitution of a steel boom and gaff for the wooden spars theretofore in use. Nor was any other ballast or weight of any description put upon the Defender after the official measurement of Sept. 6 and before the race on the 7th, or taken out of her after the race on the 7th and before the remeasurement on the 8th.

There were no tanks left in the boat into which water could have been introduced as ballast, and the hold was examined and found to be dry immediately before and during the race. Lord Dunraven admitted that water could not have been used as ballast without tanks to contain it. After the Defender's bulkheads were removed at New Rochelle she was open from stem to stern, so that no ballast could have been concealed. Mr. Iselin personally examined the hold before the measurement on Sept. 6. Immediately before the race on Sept. 7 both Mr. Iselin and Mr. Herreshoff examined the hold again to see how the twenty-one pigs had been stowed the night before, and the condition of the hold as to water. No ballast of any kind, to any material amount, could possibly have been put on board or taken off the Defender, as the committee believe, without the knowledge of all the officers and crew, and of Mr. Iselin and his guests.

The work referred to by Lord Dunraven as done on board the Defender the night before the race was the moving and cutting and replacing of the lead before mentioned, and likewise work done by a party of riggers in fitting new wire ropes forming bridles for the mainsheet blocks—several riggers from New York, as well as the officers and crew of the Defender, testifying before the committee that they were engaged on such work that night, and that it lasted until 3 o'clock in the morning, and was of a nature to make considerable noise. The Hattie Palmer, after lying a short time alongside, left the Defender for the night before 10 o'clock both on that evening and the next, and did not return to the Defender on either night.

In respect to the pipe hole on the port side of the Defender, noticed by Lord Dunraven at the time of the measurement the day before the race, and which proved to be the discharge of the bilge pump, it was shown by a careful measurement and survey made by Mr. De Luze, a civil engineer experienced in such work, assisted by Mr. Hyslop, the official measurer, and testified to by them, that when the vessel lay in still water, trimmed and ballasted as she was on Sept. 8, the discharge hole would not be visible, being entirely below the l.w.l. as defined by the external marks affixed on that day, as above stated; and this was shown upon a drawing prepared by Mr. De Luze.

This hole was not, as thought by Lord Dunraven and his witnesses, about an inch in diameter, but was 2¹⁵⁄₁₆in. in diameter.

It is not disputed that the Defender was in substantially the same trim and the same degree of immersion on both the 6th and 8th of September. And Mr Hyslop testified positively that the marks which had been painted on the Defender in his presence by Mr. Watson were still visible at the time of the hearing before the committee, identically as they had been put on.

The committee had no reason to doubt the accuracy of these measurements, or the correctness of the evidence in respect to them. But they deemed it most important that it should be settled beyond any possible question whether the discharge hole of the bilge pump was or was not visible above the l.w.l. if the vessel was upon an even keel. At the request of the committee, therefore, Capt. Mahan kindly undertook to make a further examination of the Defender, now lying at New Rochelle, with reference to this point. He made a visit to the yacht in company with Mr. Iselin and Mr. Askwith, but found that under the uncertain weather conditions prevalent at this season a measurement direct from the water surface was scarcely practicable, and recommended that the matter in question should be settled by measurements starting from points of origin within the yacht herself. He therefore obtained from the Brooklyn Navy Yard, through the kindness of Naval Constructor Bowles, the services of Mr. Hibbs, an assistant naval constructor in the United States Navy, who, without being apprised of the result reached by Mr. De Luze and Mr. Hyslop, or seeing the drawings, went to New Rochelle and made a careful measurement of the location of the bilge pump discharge in reference to the l.w.l. as marked on the Defender externally by Mr. Watson. The request made to Constructor Bowles for the committee was as follows:

"The committee would like to have accurately determined by measurement the exact position of the bilge pump hole on the port side of the yacht Defender, indicated in plan submitted, so as to show conclusively the vertical distance of the lower rim of the hole from the racing waterline, two points of that line being shown at the lower edge of the red disk and of the mark on the stem.

"These two marks were placed by the measurer when the yacht was in racing trim and on even keel.

"Committee would also like to know the vertical drop of said hole, corresponding to 1°, 2° and 3° of list to port.

"Also, would noticeable trimming by the head be produced by shifting thirty men—say two tons—from center of gravity to the men's berthing quarters?

"N. B.—Note if red marks are of some standing.

"A. T. Mahan."

Mr. Hibbs reported in writing to Constructor Bowles, by whom the report was transmitted to the committee through Capt. Mahan, that the lower edge of the discharge hole was 2¹³⁄₃₂in. below the l.w.l., thus confirming the accuracy of the previous measurements by Mr. De Luze and Mr. Hyslop. Mr. Hibbs followed a different method of measurement from that adopted by the others, for he ascertained the position of the bilge pump hole entirely by measurements starting from within the yacht herself and not from the water. It follows, therefore, as a mathematical certainty, that upon an even keel, in the Erie Basin, this discharge hole would have been below the level of the water.

By further experiments made at the same time, Mr. Hibbs also ascertained that:

1. A weight of two tons moved from a position amidships through a distance of 13.75ft. athwartships would incline the Defender one degree, and would drop the discharge hole 8¼in.

2. That a weight of five tons similarly moved through 11ft. would incline her two degrees and would drop the discharge hole 4¼in.

3. That a weight of ten tons similarly moved through a distance of 7.25ft. would incline her three degrees and would drop the discharge hole 6¾in.

4. A weight of two tons was moved from the center of gravity of

the water plane forward on the middle line to the horizontal position of the center of gravity of the crew's berthing quarters, a distance of 39ft. 6in. The change of trim thereby occasioned on the waterline was as follows:

Forward, 2¼in. down.
Aft, 2in. up.

Mr. Hibbs further stated that he carefully examined the paint marks on the stem and side of the Defender, and that it was evident that they were of some standing.

The proof showed that as the vessel lay in the Erie Basin just before the official measurement on Sept. 6 she had a slight list to starboard, probably occasioned by the movement of the crew to that side of the vessel before they were put in position amidships for that measurement. And it was further shown that the quarters of the crew were in the forecastle; that their cots, bedding, etc., there were of the weight of about 40lbs. to each man; that these cots, etc., were taken out before the race and transferred to the Hattie Palmer and returned to the Defender after the race, and that their presence on board at the time she was seen by Lord Dunraven and his witnesses early on the morning of the 7th, or the congregating of the crew forward for any reason, might have brought the vessel a little down by the head, as shown by the experiments of Constructor Hibbs, and so have brought the bobstay bolt nearer the water.

On the occasion of Lord Dunraven's coming alongside the Defender in his gig, there was a general and perfectly natural movement of nearly every one on board to that side of the yacht.

If, as Lord Dunraven suspected, the Defender had entered upon the race of Sept. 7 with her racing line increased by the addition of ballast after the measurement of Sept. 6, she would have been violating the rules of the New York Y. C., under which the race was sailed, one of which is as follows:

"If any yacht, by alteration of trim or immersion by dead weight, increase her l.w.l. length, or in any way increase her spar measurements as officially taken, she must obtain a remeasurement."

This rule is specifically reproduced in the special agreement of Sept. 4 governing the Cup races.

Lord Dunraven did not make any written or other communication to the Cup committee or to Mr. Iselin on the subject of the increased immersion of the Defender, except that made to the committee through Mr. Fish.

The rule of the New York Y. C. on the subject of protests for violation of the rules of a race is as follows:

"A yacht having cause during a race to protest against any other yacht for a violation of these rules shall display flag B of the club signal code, which shall be known as the protest flag, and keep such flag flying till answered from the judge's boat by the answering pennant. A protest must be supplemented by a written statement of the facts, which must be sent to the regatta committee before 6 P. M. of the day following the race."

Lord Dunraven did not raise his flag, as required by this rule, nor make any protest at all against the Defender on that race.

With reference to the suggestion of Lord Dunraven that the omission of the Cup committee to remeasure the Defender on the same day of the race, or to put a representative on board of her to remain during the night, justified his suspicion that her displacement had been tampered with between the race and the remeasurement on the following day, a few words should be said.

It has already been pointed out that a remeasurement of the Defender after the race and on the same day was impossible, because the Erie Basin, where alone it could take place, was too far distant to be reached until too dark to make it, and that Lord Dunraven was so informed by Mr. Fish when the request was made. It was fully proved that such a measurement could not be made by artificial light. The remeasurement that took place on the next day (Sunday), at 10 o'clock in the morning, was, therefore, the earliest possible.

In regard to the request, which Lord Dunraven states that he made to Mr. Fish for transmission to the Cup committee, namely, that each of the two yachts should be taken into the charge of the committee for that night, it is conclusively shown that no such request reached the committee.

Mr. Fish denies that any such request was included in the message with which he was charged. That he did not understand that it was included is shown by the fact that in delivering the message a few hours afterward, gravely impressed as he says with its importance, he made no mention to the committee of such a request.

It further appears that a memorandum of the message sent was made by Mr. Fish in writing, which was produced and put in evidence, and contains no allusion to the request in question. Mr. Fish testifies that he made this memorandum in Lord Dunraven's presence, because unwilling to trust his own memory, and in order to be assured that it should be accurately conveyed; that he read it over to Lord Dunraven, who suggested a correction, which was underlined; and that this memorandum contained the whole message as given to him, and as delivered by him. Lord Dunraven remembers that some memorandum was made by Mr. Fish at the time concerning this message, but does not recollect that he himself suggested any correction. But even upon his own recollection of the facts, the written memorandum seems strongly to confirm Mr. Fish's statement.

It is testified by the Cup committee that the memorandum was delivered to them by Mr. Fish as the message he had received, and it is clear that it was acted upon by them as such, and that the publication by Lord Dunraven in the *Field* was the first knowledge that committee had of any alleged request that they should take charge of the vessels pending remeasurement. It is also to be observed that Lord Dunraven in his letter to Mr. Kersey of Sept. 27 makes no mention of such request, for all he says there is: "I don't know whether Fish ever told the committee I wished the ships measured immediately after the race."

It was shown that the message from Lord Dunraven as to the increased immersion of the Defender, and the reason for his request for a remeasurement of the Defender, were not communicated to Mr. Iselin by Mr. Fish or by the Cup committee, and did not come to his knowledge till long afterward.

It has not been suggested that the members of the Cup committee, or any of them, were or could have been parties to any tampering with the waterline of the Defender. The complaint of Lord Dunraven, made through Mr. Fish, was not stated in such terms as to suggest to them, in the absence of any definite request, that they ought to put a representative on board the Defender that night. This is apparent from Lord Dunraven's own statement of it in his publication in the *Field*. The committee have not been referred to any precedent for such action, nor to any rule of any yacht club in which such a remedy has been provided for. It necessarily implied distrust of all persons connected with the management of the Defender, and from their knowledge of these gentlemen it would doubtless never have occurred to the Cup committee unless specially demanded.

But whether the Cup committee should of their own motion, upon the suggestion that was in fact conveyed to them by oral message from Lord Dunraven, have taken that step as a matter of precaution, becomes now in the present case totally immaterial to consider, because, as has been shown, the evidence is conclusive that nothing did take place or under the circumstances could possibly have taken place on board the Defender that night tending to support the charge made by Lord Dunraven. A representative of the Cup committee, if he had been on board, could therefore have discovered nothing and prevented nothing.

The only other circumstance that the committee deem it material to allude to is the omission by the Cup committee, until after the first race, to cause the l.w.l. length of the competing yachts to be marked externally on the vessels.

This was indicated on both yachts by the measurer at the time of the official measurement by means of copper tacks placed in the decks. That these marks were accurate is not questioned. This method of marking the waterline length was in accordance with the uniform practice of the New York Y. C.

At the last race for the America's Cup, which took place in 1893, and in which a yacht belonging to Lord Dunraven took part, the l.w.l. length was so marked, and without objection by him.

On the present occasion the first request made by Lord Dunraven for an external marking was contained in a note dated Sept. 5, 1895, the very day upon which the boats were to be measured, addressed to Mr. Canfield, the secretary of the Cup committee. That committee without delay convened a meeting and acted favorably upon the request, provided Mr. Iselin consented, his consent being necessary to any modification of the terms of the agreement. He at once assented, and within a few hours after the receipt of Lord Dunraven's request the committee had sent a sub-committee to the Erie Basin, where the boats were to be measured, to see that they were marked externally as requested by Lord Dunraven.

But the Valkyrie had already been measured and had left the basin, and could not return on account of the tide. It was therefore arranged that the marking should take place on Sept. 8, the day following the first race. And the measurer was ordered to preserve the batten used in the first measurement, and to take steps to make sure that the yachts should be at the same point of immersion.

It is apparent, therefore, that the reason why the external marking was not made until after the first race had been sailed was because Lord Dunraven was so late in his request for a method of marking not customary and not provided for in the agreement for the race that it was impossible that it should be had any sooner.

Lord Dunraven must be in error in his recollection that in his conversation with Mr. Fish he demanded and as a result secured the external marking of the boats. And the suggestion that Lord Dunraven had repeatedly asked to have the vessels marked externally before the first race is not sustained by any evidence.

It is very much to be regretted that, if Lord Dunraven's suspicions were not dispelled at the time of the remeasurement of the Defender on Sept. 8, he did not say so then, instead of accepting in silence the result which verified the previous measurement. The remeasurement was the committee's response to the communication which they had received through Mr. Fish. In connection with their knowledge of the circumstances, which made it impossible that the imputed fraud could have been perpetrated without Mr. Iselin's concurrence, and their knowledge of Mr. Iselin, it satisfied them; and, as we have seen, it justly satisfied them.

To all appearance it satisfied Lord Dunraven. He was present at the remeasurement and met there the members of the committee and Mr. Iselin. He made no request for further action. He made no objection to proceeding without further action. He made no inquiry as to how or how fully his oral message through Mr. Fish had been delivered, and no suggestion that any request which he supposed to have been contained in that message had not been complied with.

He sailed the next race in the series that had been agreed on without protest or objection on account of the change which he had told Mr. Fish he believed to have been made in the load waterline of the Defender before the first race. And he testified that his belief that such a change had occurred did not influence him in his final withdrawal from the match at the third race. The Cup committee seems to have been warranted in supposing that Lord Dunraven's suspicions were allayed, and that no further steps were necessary to settle any question of fact or to vindicate any one's reputation.

Upon careful consideration of the whole case, the committee are unanimously of the opinion that the charge made by Lord Dunraven, and which has been the subject of this investigation, had its origin in mistake; that it is not only not sustained by evidence, but is completely disproved; and that all the circumstances indicated by him as giving rise to his suspicion are entirely and satisfactorily explained. They deem it, therefore, but just to Mr. Iselin and the gentlemen concerned with him, as well as to the officers and crew of the Defender, that the committee should express emphatically their conviction that nothing whatever occurred in connection with the race in question that casts the least suspicion upon the integrity or propriety of their conduct.

And the committee are not willing to doubt that if Lord Dunraven had remained present throughout the investigation, so as to have heard all the evidence that was introduced, he would of his own motion have withdrawn a charge that was so plainly founded upon mistake, and that has been so unfortunate in the publicity it has attained, and the feeling to which it has given rise.

The committee append a full stenographic report, revised by the counsel on both sides, of all the evidence laid before them, and of all the proceedings on the hearing, and likewise copies of all the documents and papers introduced on either side, as considered by the committee.

And they ask to be discharged from further consideration of the subject referred to them.

The committee cannot take leave of the case without expressing their regret that a part of the evidence now annexed should have been surreptitiously obtained by a New York newspaper owned by one of the oldest members of the club, and published with comments very adverse to one of the parties on the morning of Jan. 20. They had deemed it important under the peculiarly delicate circumstances of this case, and the interest it had excited both in England and the United States, that no part of their proceedings should be laid before the public, or become the subject of discussion, until the whole evidence and their conclusions upon it could be made known in both countries. Their request to this effect was so obvious in its propriety that it was most honorably observed by all the many persons who had access, in a greater or less degree, to the proceedings of the committee. It was, therefore, in spite of the committee's efforts, in opposition to their well-understood wishes, and in disregard of the best interests of the yacht club, that this premature and imperfect publication was made.

E. J. PHELPS,
J. PIERPONT MORGAN,
W. C. WHITNEY,
A. T. MAHAN,
G. L. RIVES.

JAN. 21, 1896.

During the reading of the report Mr. Morgan was interrupted by applause. At its conclusion ex-Com. James D. Smith moved that it be accepted and the committee discharged with thanks, the motion being unanimously carried.

Mr. Lewis Cass Ledyard then moved that the consideration of the committee's report and of the matters referred to therein be postponed until the next general meeting of the club, Feb. 13, and that in the meantime copies of the report and the evidence be sent to each member of the club. This was also carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.

The full report of the committee, a pamphlet of nearly 600 pages, and which, it is understood, was distributed in London at the same time as in New York, contains, with the evidence taken by the committee, the following report made to it by the America's Cup committee on Dec. 14 and now published for the first time:

To Messrs. J. Pierpont Morgan, William C. Whitney and George L. Rives, a committee appointed at a special meeting of the N. Y. Y. C., held Nov. 18, in reference to certain published statements by the Earl of Dunraven, regarding the late match for the America's Cup:

GENTLEMEN—In pursuance of the intimation conveyed in your letter of Nov. 22, 1895, that your committee would be glad to receive any statement which the members of the America's Cup committee desired to make, we propose to submit herewith a somewhat detailed review of the events involved and to consider the character of the charges made by Lord Dunraven against the yacht Defender, his evidence, his procedure and the action taken by the committee in the more important circumstances of the contest.

It is proper to state at the outset that the responsibility for the course pursued falls on the committee solely, as those in control of Defender were not informed of the charges made against their vessel.

(I.) As to marking the yachts.

In his published statement Lord Dunraven seems to imply that his request that the yachts be marked on the outside at the ends of the l.w.l., was made prior to the signing of the agreement of terms, and that the committee neglected to take action in the matter until after the first race and only as a result of his charge against Defender. Such an implication is a misrepresentation of the facts, which are as follows:

On Aug. 30 Lord Dunraven met the committee to discuss the conditions of the race. He then suggested marking the yachts at the water level. The committee replied that this was not the custom of the club, and Lord Dunraven waived the point. A draft of the conditions, with some few alterations, was prepared by the secretary and was submitted to Lord Dunraven and signed by him on Sept. 4 (not Sept. 6, as he now says). After the meeting on Aug. 30 Lord Dunraven did not recur to the subject until his letter dated Sept. 6 (not 5) asking that the yachts be marked on the outside at the l.w.l. On this day, Sept. 6, the yachts had agreed to be at the Erie Basin for measurement. Upon receipt of this request two of the committee proceeded to the Erie Basin in order to arrange, if possible, that the yachts should be marked that day.

It was found that Valkyrie had been measured and taken out of the Basin, and that it would be impossible for her, on account of the tide, to return and be marked that day. It was therefore arranged with Lord Dunraven and Mr. Iselin that the yachts should be marked, as the former requested, on the morning of the day following the first race, and that the representatives from each side should be present.

As Mr. Watson had undertaken to affix the marks, the measurer was instructed in his presence to preserve the marked batten used to locate the ends of the l.w.l., as measured from the end of the overhang, to apply the same when the marks were affixed, and thus insure that the l.w.l. was the same as when first measured on Sept. 6.

(II.) As to the complaint made by Lord Dunraven during the match that Defender exceeded her measured l.w.l. during the first race:

(a) The facts in the matter are as follows:

Prior to the start, on Sept. 7, the day of the first race, Lord Dunraven stated to Mr. Latham A. Fish, a member of the committee and the representative of the N. Y. Y. C. that day on Valkyrie, that he, Lord Dunraven, and some four or five others whom he named, were confident from their own observation that Defender was 3 or 4in. deeper in the water than when measured the previous day. He stated that he believed this alteration had been made without the knowledge of the owners of Defender, but it must be corrected or he would discontinue racing.

He said he did not wish to say to the committee what action they should take, but he desired a remeasurement that day, after the race.

Mr. Fish remarked to Lord Dunraven that, in his opinion, it would be too dark after the race to remeasure that day.

The first intimation that the committee received of this conversation was when, in response to a hail from Valkyrie, Mr. Fish was taken on board the committee boat shortly after 6 P. M. Mr. Fish immediately reported to the committee. Owing to the lateness of the hour it was a physical impossibility to take Defender to a proper place and remeasure her that day. The committee took steps to insure that a remeasurement the next day, in connection with the marking, should be thoroughly done. This remeasurement showed less than ½in. difference in the l.w.l. length of Defender as compared with Friday's figures.

And thus the matter ended.

It is proper to note here that Lord Dunraven is in error in asserting that he asked or suggested that a watch be placed on both vessels until measured.

We do not make this denial as a defense of the committee's action or as implying that such a request or suggestion would have been followed.

As will appear from what follows, the committee decided upon a course of action which did not involve proving or disproving Lord Dunraven's implication of fraud.

As bearing somewhat on the case, it is only fair to Mr. Fish to say that he was in no way acting as a member of the committee that day on Valkyrie, but merely as the representative of the N. Y. Y. C., to see fair play during the race, and his only function in this matter was that of a trustworthy messenger.

(b) As to the nature and gravity of the charge made by Lord Dunraven against the yacht Defender:

Lord Dunraven's complaint contained an assertion that his adversary exceeded her measured l.w.l., and a call for remeasurement. If it went no further than this, it was completely satisfied by the remeasurement made at the earliest opportunity. If it went further, then it was a charge of fraudulent violation of the rules by the yacht Defender, and the owners were directly responsible. A plea that by their neglect the fraud had been committed without their knowledge would have been puerile. Any attempt to treat such a charge informally, or to evade the gravity of the accusation, was and is futile. With no knowledge as to what supervision had been exercised by Mr. Iselin, Lord Dunraven expressed to Mr. Fish his belief that the owners of Defender were in ignorance of the alleged alteration, and he knew says:

I told * * * him (Mr. Fish) I thought some mistake had been made and that all the weight put into Defender after measurement had not been taken out.

Did Lord Dunraven seriously think he could relieve the owners of the burden of his charge, or that a matter of at least 20,000lbs. of weight might have been left in Defender by "mistake" when removing such weights as had been put in after measurement, and that a watch should be set to prevent this "mistake" from being corrected before remeasurement?

(c) As to the evidence on which the charge was based:

Lord Dunraven based his charge on his observation of the bobstay, a pipe hole amidships, and the line of the bronze plating. He further cites that Defender was 6in. longer than when measured for the Goelet Cup race, and that men were working on the Defender until 1 A. M. on the night of Sept. 6. These last two points seem to us, as matters of evidence, about equally devoid of importance.

The bobstay, as Lord Dunraven admits, would be of little value as a guide, unless the position of the crew, sails, etc., were the same as during measurement. The pipe hole "amidships," his other mark, awash when seen in the basin during measurement, would be immersed by a list of less than 2° in a vessel of Defender's beam at the l.w.l.

On these grounds Lord Dunraven unhesitatingly attacks the good name and faith of every man on Defender during the nights of Sept. 6 and 7, and the owners of the vessel as well, whatever he may be pleased to say to the contrary.

In vessels of the outline of Defender, the l.w.l. length increases about 7in. for each inch of immersion. Perfectly still water is necessary to locate the end of the l.w.l. when measuring, and the slightest disturbance of the surface is certain to produce the illusion that the l.w.l. is longer and the vessel more deeply immersed; it seems probable that Lord Dunraven and his friends were suffering from such an illusion.

The complaint made to Mr. Fish was of an increased immersion of 3 or 4in. This would involve the transference of 20,000 to 30,000lbs. of ballast. In his public statement Lord Dunraven claims that Defender's l.w.l. was about 1ft. longer; this would correspond to an increased immersion of less than 2in.

It is not our province to reconcile these statements; we can only say that, in our opinion, it would be hardly possible in open water to recognize an increase of 1ft. in the l.w.l. length, or of less than 2in. in the immersion, of a vessel of Defender's outline.

(d) As to the course of action adopted by Lord Dunraven in the matter.

In explanation of his course of action, Lord Dunraven now says in his published statement.

"I was reluctant to make a formal complaint to the Cup committee on a matter which it was of course impossible for me to verify; in any case nothing could be done before the race was started."

A charge of such gravity admitted of no alternative. If made at all it demanded imperatively a formal complaint.

"Nothing could be done before the race was started."

Before the start on Sept. 7 Lord Dunraven asserted to Mr. Fish that a condition of the contest had been violated. He had ample opportunity between the time he made his alleged discovery and the start of the first race to formally signal his protest and announce his refusal to race an opponent whom he suspected of fraud, until an investigation of the accusation and evidence had been made.

In this way a remeasurement could have been secured that day and the charge verified, if true.

(e) As to the course of action and the position taken by the committee.

When Mr. Fish reported to the committee it was too late to remeasure Defender that day. Lord Dunraven asserts that the remeasurement the next day proved nothing, and intimates that it was the duty of the committee to place a watch on Defender until measured in order to prevent the perpetration of a new fraud which would conceal the previous one.

As between Lord Dunraven and us the question is: Was this the duty of the committee under the circumstances?

Leaving aside all question of the power of any committee to take such action or of this committee, under the powers delegated to it, we reply that such action was not incumbent on the committee, and for the following reasons:

First—The charge was of a disgraceful and shameful action, and in order to receive attention it demanded to be presented in an unqualifiedly formal manner.

As a matter of fact it was made in an informal verbal message, unaccompanied by protest or signed statement of any kind, and was coupled with inadmissible pleas advanced by the accuser to the effect that the owners were probably ignorant of the alteration and that it was due to mistake.

Second—As a basis for treating Defender as an accused criminal, the charge was founded on most illusory and insufficient facts.

Third—The accuser neglected his opportunity to protest before the race and so secure a remeasurement that day, and in view of such neglect the onus of taking up the charge of fraud did not rest on the committee, and, *a fortiori*, they were not bound to have recourse to methods unprecedented in the history of American yacht racing.

The charge involved the transference of 20,000 to 30,000lbs. of weight and the connivance of the whole crew of the American yacht and her tender, and was considered by the committee absurd and preposterous.

The committee decided to treat the complaint simply as a call for remeasurement, and to disregard all imputations of fraud, and by so doing to force upon the accuser the issue either to support his charge and protest against his treatment by the committee, or to drop the subject and go on with the match.

We maintain that the circumstances justified such a treatment of the matter by the committee.

Lord Dunraven did go on with the match until a further grievance induced his withdrawal, and he made no further reference to the subject in his dealings with the committee.

We maintain that the committee were entitled to regard his action in continuing the contest after his complaint, and especially after his threat of withdrawal, as tantamount to a withdrawal of his charges, and an acknowledgment that he no longer had grounds of complaint, and that he was also in honor bound to so regard it.

If this is so, the statement in the *Field* of Nov. 9 that Defender sailed the first race immersed below her measured l.w.l., must, in justice to Lord Dunraven, be considered, not as a recurrence of his former complaint, but as a new accusation, and must, in justice to the owners of Defender, be treated as such.

Some surprise has been expressed at the equanimity with which the committee's report to the N. Y. Y. C. was received, as compared with the indignation aroused by Lord Dunraven's published statement.

The difference of feeling seems to us perfectly rational.

By the report it appeared that a charge of fraud had been made or implied by the challenger, which by his continuation of the contest he subsequently withdrew or abandoned.

In his published statement Lord Dunraven asserts: That Defender exceeded her measured l.w.l. in the first race, and criticises the measure adopted by the committee as ineffective, thereby implying that Defender, by means of the opportunity afforded, was restored to her original length before the remeasurement.

(III.) As to Lord Dunraven's complaint that the committee would not postpone the last race in order to consider his suggestions for avoiding an overcrowned course.

After sailing two races, Lord Dunraven informed the committee that he considered the circumstances unsuitable for yacht racing, and would race no more until a remedy was found.

Strenuous efforts were made to control the accompanying vessels. These efforts gave every promise of success on the morning of the third race, when a part of his grievance was removed by securing a clear start.

Lord Dunraven's proposed conditions as to changing the course or not announcing the dates and times of racing the committee did not think possible to grant.

It seemed to them time to end the matter. It seemed to them useless and undignified to delay the start for further parley with a challenger who in the middle of a contest had seen fit to advance new conditions in the form of an ultimatum under a threat of withdrawal.

(IV.) As to Lord Dunraven's withdrawal from the match.

Lord Dunraven justifies his withdrawal from the contest on the grounds that he did not have a fair field and a reasonably unobstructed course.

If by "a fair field" he implies any discrimination against him by accompanying vessels, we must affirm that he is in error; but from his letters we infer that he admits that there was none.

In the absence of such discrimination, the only reason left for his action was the obstructed course, equally objectionable to both contestants. We fail entirely to see that this justified a withdrawal any more than any other material difficulty which might arise and which might, to the mind of one contestant, spoil the sport. At all events, on the day of the last race the physical objection did not exist up to the time that Valkyrie withdrew, and it would seem that Lord Dunraven must have been moved by other considerations.

With a perfectly clear start and every indication of good intentions on the part of accompanying vessels, it seems to us impossible to justify Lord Dunraven's conduct, as a sportsman, in not starting and sailing the race at least until such time as he had reason to complain that his vessel was suffering from interference.

We have the honor to remain your obedient servants,

James D. Smith,
Latham N. Fish,
J. Frederic Tams,
Gouverneur Kortright,
A. Rogers,
J. R. Busk,
A. Cass Canfield.

The affidavit of Lord Dunraven, on which the case is based, is as follows:

I, Wyndham Thomas Wyndham Quin, Earl of Dunraven and Mountearl, do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:

On Aug. 31, 1895, I was on board of Valkyrie in the Erie Basin. Defender came into the basin and lay close to us for some time previous to going into the dock. That being the first occasion on which I had an opportunity of seeing her in smooth water and close to, I observed her very closely and carefully noticed her trim, her line of immersion and general appearance. I again saw the Defender on Sept. 6, when she was in the Erie Basin for the purpose of measurement.

I noticed at once that the Defender was floating much lighter than when I saw her on Aug. 31. I myself carefully looked at the port side of the Defender, the starboard side being next the quay and so not visible, and I specially noticed an outlet hole about midships, which was just cut by the water a little above the base. The hole was rather more than an inch in diameter.

I also distinctly noticed the line of bronze plating and also the bobstay bolt. Mr. Watson was on board the Defender before she was measured, and immediately on his return from the Defender he also pointed out to me the pipe hole and the bronze plating and the bobstay bolt indicating the flotation line of the Defender.

Both yachts lay inside Sandy Hook on the night of the 5th and I slept on board the City of Bridgeport, which lay a short distance from the Valkyrie. About half past 6 in the morning of the 7th September I was awakened by Mr. Glennie, who requested me to come up and look at Defender. I looked at her carefully through a pair of glasses and I was convinced that she was lying deeper in the water than when measured. I went in the gig to put Mr. Henderson on board the Defender as my representative.

I then inspected the Defender with great care to see whether the pipe hole and other marks which I had previously observed were in the same position as when she was measured.

The outlet hole on the port side was nowhere visible above the water, and in my judgment and belief the line of bronze plating and the bobstay bolt were nearer to the water than when she was measured. Judging from the fact that the pipe hole was immersed and by the position of the bronze plating and bobstay bolt, I came to the conclusion, which I still believe to be a true conclusion, that the vessel was immersed 3 or 4in. deeper in the water than when she was measured.

I also looked carefully at the general trim of the Defender. She was lying true on the water and had no list to port or starboard.

In forming the aforesaid conclusion I also took into account the general appearance of the Defender and her trim in addition to the other matters before mentioned. Dunraven.

Declared before me at 11 Ely place, Holborn, in the county of London, this 10th day of December, 1895. William Jaques,
Commissioner of Oaths.

The testimony of Lord Dunraven, when examined by Mr. Choate, was as follows:

Q.—I should like to have you say whether you then believed a fraud had been committed on the Defender, or on the part of the Defender, on the first day's race? A.—I believed that the vessel was immersed deeper in the water. I stated that it was possible or probable that a mistake had been made and that all the weight put into the vessel had not been taken out.

Q.—Did you have a realizing sense of the charge that was involved in the statement which you made? A.—I quite realized the facts that the complaints that I made involved the possibility that some person had intentionally altered the w.l. length of the vessel.

Q.—Did you know what the measurement of her l.w.l. length had been on the 6th in the Erie Basin? A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you know that it was 89 86ft.? A.—Well, I cannot say now.

Q.—Well, you knew what it was? A.—I knew at the time. I don't know what it was now.

Q.—Now, it appears by your statement that you complained to Mr. Fish on the morning of the 7th that she exceeded that day her measured length by about 1ft.? A.—In my opinion—of course I did not calculate it out—the vessel being 3in. deeper in the water, it would have made her about 1ft. longer.

Q.—But you did not suppose that that would lengthen her l.w.l. more than 1ft.? A.—Judging by the eye and roughly calculating, I should think about 1ft.

Q.—You knew it was capable of being definitely and mathematically ascertained, did you not? A.—Yes, I should suppose so.

Q.—But your belief was that some substance or substances to the amount of nine or ten tons had been secretly introduced into her after she was measured and before you saw her on the morning of the 7th? A.—Yes; that a weight of nine or ten tons had probably been introduced into the vessel. But I should like to say that speaking of 3 or 4in. of course is more or less vague. I was judging by the eye solely, and cannot be tied down to a definite statement that the vessel was sunk 3in. It might have been 2¾ or 3¼in. Of course, I was merely judging as well as I could by the eye.

Q.—Well, you have stated in your public statement that on the occasion of putting Mr. Henderson on board not only that you felt perfectly certain that the Defender was immersed deeper than when measured, "but that she was in my deliberate opinion floating about 4in. deeper in the water than when measured." That is correct, isn't it? A.—Yes.

Q.—Can you describe that otherwise than as an intent to cheat and defraud? A.—Cheat in the ordinary sense of the word, certainly.

Q.—Was there more than one conversation that you had with Mr. Fish on the Valkyrie on the 7th? A.—On this particular subject?

Q.—Yes. A.—No.

Q.—Quite sure? A.—To the best of my recollection only one. I don't think I alluded to the subject at all again to Mr. Fish.

Q.—Did not Mr. Fish, after you had had your conversation with him in the morning, and much later in the day, say to you that it was too important a matter to be conveyed by word of mouth? A.—No.

Q.—What? A.—No.

Q.—Did he ask you subsequently during the day to repeat what you had said? A.—No; not to my recollection.

Q.—Let me see if I cannot refresh your recollection. Did he not take pencil and paper and ask you again to say what you had said? A.—No. Fish made some pencil notes. I think that was at the time of the first conversation—the only conversation I had with him.

Q.—He did have a pencil and paper then? A.—Yes.

Q.—That was after you had—? A.—I won't say whether it was a piece of paper Mr. Fish wrote on or his shirt cuff. I did not agree to supply him with any paper, and it may have been a newspaper.

Q.—What passed between you and him, to your recollection, about the paper, and what you wrote on it, or his shirt sleeve, if it was that? A.—I think Mr. Fish asked me if I could give him any paper to make a note of what I was saying, but we had no writing materials on board the ship. I think Mr. Fish made a note of some kind on, as I say, a bit of newspaper or something.

Q.—He did not do that, did he, until after you had stated to him what you had to complain of? A.—Yes; at the time.

Q.—As you spoke did he write? A.—As we were sitting and talking, certainly. It may have been a minute or two after I had spoke, or while I was absolutely talking on the subject. There was no lapse of time.

Q.—Do you remember his reading what he wrote? A.—No.

Q.—You don't remember whether he did or not? A.—No, I don't think he did.

Q.—Do you think if you saw that paper you would recognize it? A.—No.

Q.—Or would you know where the paper came from? A.—No.

Q.—Did you produce the paper or he? A.—I don't think I did; I don't know. I think Mr. Fish may have produced it himself, or somebody may have given him the back of a letter. Really, I don't remember.

Mr. Askwith—Will you produce it?

Mr. Choate—It is in the possession of Mr. Smith, and it will be produced.

Q.—Isn't it correct to say that it has been stated by you with some variation three or four times? In your statement to-day you said, "Mr. Fish asked me what I wished to be done, I said that I wished the committee to put one of their members or some reliable representative on board each of the yachts immediately after the race." Is that as nearly as you can recall exactly what you said? A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you think that nine or ten tons of any material could be loaded on board the Defender, after she was measured and before the race, without its being known to a very considerable number of people? A.—Lead could not be loaded, of course, without its being known to a considerable number of people. I presume water might be introduced without its being known to a number of people.

Q.—Did you believe that water had been introduced? A.—I really had no opinion as to what was done.

Q.—Had you any intimation from any of your friends or acquaintances that the Defender at any time had, by the use of water ballast, accomplished any such thing? A.—No.

Q.—Now, to come back to the original measurement of Sept. 6. How far were you from the Defender? A.—I suppose about 15 or 20yds.

Q.—The Valkyrie had some lead ballast on the cabin floor, had she not, when she was measured? A.—Yes.

Q.—And that, of course, was not left on the cabin floor during the race? A.—No; it was put below.

Q.—Did you have any representative upon the Defender when she was measured? A.—Yes. Mr. Watson.

Q.—At this time you were satisfied that she was floating considerably higher than when you had seen her on Aug. 31? A.—Yes.

Q.—Then you were of the opinion that some weights had been taken out of her and not replaced? A.—She had been lightened up, yes.

Q.—Do you know that there is more than one hole on the port side, one pipe hole? A.—No, there was only one that I noticed.

Q.—Under the mastbead runner? A.—Yes, I should think so.

Q.—Well, supposing that there are in fact two, did you see two on that day? A.—No.

Q.—You saw only one? A.—I saw but one.

Q.—And that was about amidships, just cut by the water? A.—Yes. Cut by the water a little above the lower edge of the pipe.

Q.—And it was a hole rather more than 1in. in diameter. Now, where was this bobstay iron or bolt? A slight depression of the bow in the water would considerably change the relation of that bobstay bolt to the water? A.—Yes, a depression, of course, would bring it nearer the water.

Q. (by Mr. Rives)—How high above the water was it when she came to be measured? A.—I should think 12 or 14in.

Q.—How far was it above the water when you saw her the morning of the 7th, down at the Horseshoe? A.—I should think about 12 or 14in., but that is, of course, a mere estimate of what the perpendicular height would be.

Q.—What time were you towed down to the Horseshoe on the evening of the 6th? A.—About 6 o'clock.

Q.—And how far away from the Defender did you anchor or lay? A.—About 200yds.

Q.—Then, how far away were you when Mr. Glennie woke you up and you came on deck and looked out with your glasses? A.—About 200yds.

Q.—How was the water that morning? A.—Smooth. Not as smooth as it is in the dock.

Mr. Rives—I have here a statement from the advance sheet of the New York Y. C. committee's report, giving the direction of the wind that morning.

Mr. Choate—You can show that, then?

Mr. Rives—Wind, 10:50 A. M., was northeast, and therefore, according to agreement, starting line was shifted from the Lightship, compass course for going out, east by south.

Mr. Whitney—You are speaking of different time; earlier in the day?

Mr. Choate—Yes.

Q.—Do you recollect, with the light now thrown upon it, the wind at 10:30, how it was at 6:30, and how the water was? A.—The water was quite smooth, and I think the wind may have been northeast. However, I do not dispute the facts. As a matter of fact, there was scarcely any wind at all.

Q.—What did Mr. Glennie say when he called you? A.—That the Defender appeared to be much deeper in the water.

Q.—Was the port side or starboard side then exposed to you; the Defender's? A.—The starboard side.

Q.—Well, with your glasses you did not look for these special marks on the bobstay bolt and the pipe and the bronze plating at all? A.—The pipe was on the far side.

Q.—On the far side? A.—Yes.

Q.—And you didn't have any aid from that? A.—No.

Q.—Did you with your glasses look at the bobstay bolt? A.—I looked at the vessel all over, yes.

Q.—And you could see the marks of the bronze plating; how the bronze plating lay on the water? A.—I could see the difference between the bronze and the aluminum.

Q.—Then you made up your mind very satisfactorily, did you not, that she lay deeper in the water than when she was measured? A.—Yes, I felt pretty sure she was.

Q.—And in your opinion could any judgment be formed—accurate judgment—as to that at the distance of 200yds. as she lay in the water? A.—I don't think any man looking at the vessel could say certainly, more than that she was very considerably deeper.

Q.—Then for any definite judgment you cannot rely upon the eyesight or opinion of any one on board the City of Bridgeport or the Valkyrie, who did not approach the Defender more nearly? A.—Not as to a definite statement.

Q.—As to whether the load waterline had been lengthened 1ft. or 3ft., or whether she had been immersed 1in. or 4in. deeper than when measured? A.—Oh, yes; I don't quite agree with that.

Q.—Did you get any definite statement or opinion from anybody else on the Bridgeport or Valkyrie as to how much deeper she was immersed than when measured? A.—No.

Q.—You never could have got one? A.—I don't think so.

Q.—Or how much her load waterline had been lengthened? A.—That is a matter that I would sooner not put in that way, because I have no possibility of saying accurately at all how much the vessel was lengthened by every inch of immersion.

Q.—You have no definite statement from any one on the Valkyrie or Bridgeport as to either of these points, how much deeper she was immersed or how much her load waterline was lengthened? A.—I don't think so.

Q.—Then your whole statement rests on the general idea that you got, and that others might have got, from the distance where they were, on the City of Bridgeport and Valkyrie—your whole statement rests upon your own observation as you approached the Defender with Mr. Henderson to put him on board? A.—I am not sure whether Mr. Ratsey and others, who mentioned it, made any estimate of the amount the vessel was immersed or not; but as far as I am concerned, if you mean that I made this complaint that the vessel was immersed some 3 or 4in. deeper, I made it on my own observation, yes.

Q.—And that was when you put Mr. Henderson on board the Defender? A.—I should think very probably not.

Q.—Your object in going yourself to put Henderson on board was to observe narrowly the situation? A.—Yes, partially. I rowed under her stern on the starboard side and put Henderson on board on the port side, and then, having left him, rowed ahead of the vessel, if I remember right.

Mr. Choate opened the case for Mr. Iselin as follows:

Mr. Choate—I do not think it requires any opening statement upon my part. We shall call several witnesses, we shall satisfactorily disprove what Lord Dunraven and his counsel have expressed their entire inability to prove. They have shed no light upon the statement contained in this letter, that it was possible for those three separate acts of fraud—for those three episodes in one scheme of fraud—to be accomplished without the knowledge of the managing owner of the Defender. We assert that it is utterly impossible that any such thing could have been done without the full knowledge of Mr. Iselin, and that any experienced yachtsman must know that perfectly well. We propose to prove by the designer of this boat, Defender, on what theory and scheme she was built as a competitor, and a successful competitor, for the America's Cup. We shall show that she sailed in the trial races without any ballast whatever, and that she sailed those races as she was designed, and fulfilled the expectations of her designer; and that, as she had then been a successful competitor over the Vigilant, it was his purpose, as well as the purpose of her owners, that she should be prepared and trimmed and ballasted to sail the Cup races as nearly as possible as she was upon the trial races.

After the arrival of the Valkyrie, to carry out this plan and expectation of Mr. Herreshoff, a great deal that was in her was taken out—water tank, waste tank, the trimmings of the cabin, and a great many other things that will be described by him and by those who took them out—and they were weighed and found to weigh about 7,000lbs. Now on consultation between Mr. Herreshoff and Mr. Iselin it was decided that as those objects of weight had been to a considerable extent in the upper parts of the Defender, 6,000lbs. packed and placed as lead ballast down by the keel would be an equivalent and would take the place as nearly as possible of the 7,000lbs. that had been taken out. She was taken to New Rochelle, was stripped, as I have said, and 2 tons of lead, 42 pigs, I think, were put in her. It was found, before the weighing of what was taken out had been completed, that the 2 tons was not enough to equal what had been taken out, 7,000lbs. Accordingly, when she was to come down to the Erie Basin before measurement, another ton was purchased to make the 6,000lbs., and 21 pigs of lead were bought and ready to be put upon her when she came to the Erie Basin, and were placed upon her cabin floor immediately over the place where they were to be finally stowed as ballast, and were on her cabin floor when her measurement took place.

Now, it is perfectly apparent, to me at least—I do not know what view the committee may take of it—that upon the evidence that has been furnished by Lord Dunraven, practically the whole matter rests by his observation by eyesight, aided, as it is, by Mr. Glennie's much less definite observations by his own eyesight, upon which he hardly feels that reliance can be placed. I think we shall show you by satisfactory evidence covering the period from the time this yacht left New Rochelle until the Sunday when she was remeasured and found to be exactly as she had been when measured the first time on Friday, that this is a mere delusion or illusion on the part of Lord Dunraven and his friends, originating possibly from these affidavits of the seamen that they saw or heard something going on between the Hattie Palmer and the Defender on the night of Sept. 5, until well into the morning. There was something going on there. There is no doubt about that. It was the preparation among other things, of this 21 pigs of lead, which in order to be properly stowed with the 2 tons that were there before, had to be cut. For the purpose of cutting them they were carried from the Defender's cabin floor over to the deck of the Hattie Palmer, and were there cut and were carried back, and were properly stowed below, where they were intended to be, and where they finally were when she sailed on her race. I understand that the only object of this inquiry, as announced by the chairman of the committee, is to determine whether she did sail on the race more deeply immersed or with a longer load water line than she had when measured. We shall prove incontestably, if any human evidence can be relied on, that there is no foundation whatever for the charge. We are fortunately able to furnish the closest observation and watch upon her, and what went on her during these episodes of the scheme of fraud.

I shall put Mr. Herreshoff on the stand and shall put Mr. Iselin on the stand at the outset, and shall afterward, by such a preponderance of proof, establish this negative, if you please to call it so, to disprove this charge that has been made, that I think even Lord Dunraven himself will have to withdraw it. We will call Mr. Herreshoff first.

Q.—State what your general plan was by which the Defender was to be adapted within the 90ft. limit by the deed.

A.—My design for the Defender's waterline was about 89ft. There must be some leeway in case we should want more ballast. I figured very carefully to get the whole amount of ballast in one casting in the keel. This we were very fortunate in, the casting coming out exactly as we intended, and the vessel being very near to the intended waterline. In that condition she appeared to have plenty of stability, more than seemed to be necessary, and it was decided to increase her sails. There was no change in the ballast of the boat from the time she first floated until her cabin was taken out previous to the Cup races.

Q.—How much would her l.w.l. be lengthened by an immersion of 4in.? A.—It would be lengthened 32in.

YACHTING NEWS NOTES.

Messrs. Reed Bros., of Fall River, have now on the stocks a yacht of their own design for A. Homer Skinner, of Fall River. She will be 44ft. 6in. over all, 30ft. l.w.l., 12ft. 6in. beam and 4ft. 9in. draft, without board. The iron keel weighs 6,000lbs. and she will carry 1,500sq. ft. of sail. There is a large cabin finished in quartered oak and a stateroom, w. c., refrigerator and all cruising fittings.

George Matthews, of New York, former owner of Culprit, Fay, Carlotta and Republic, is now building a cruising yawl from his own designs, the work being done by John Coughtree at Mr. Matthews's place on the East River. The new yacht will be 40ft. over all, 28ft. l.w.l., 10ft beam and 6ft. 6in. draft, with a lead keel of 4½ tons.

YAMPA'S VOYAGE.—II.

New York to Gibraltar, 1895.

Jan. 23.—Kept going under the same sail until daylight; then wind shifted to W. by S., which made us dead squared before it. Put bonnet on squaresail and downed foresail and jib. On deck at 8 A. M. Wind W. by S. and very squally. Running dead before it under double-reefed mainsail and whole squaresail. Rather a heavy sea on. Spent most of the morning aloft helping reeve off chafing gear on the different halyards, etc. Found the motion aloft entirely different from going aloft "on the beach." At noon took sun and made us lat. 35° 12′ N. A heavy rain squall about noon smothered down the sea a bit, but also deadened the wind some.

Four P. M. Noticed that the bonnet of squaresail had chafed a hole by continual rubbing against the forestay. Lowered it on deck and sewed on a heavy piece of canvas to prevent any more chafe. At 5 P. M. reset sail. Wind now getting very light and sails commencing to slat around some. At 7 P. M. were becalmed, so downed and furled mainsail to keep it from slatting to pieces, and set maintrysail. 8 P. M. wind struck in light from the S.W. Sea now all over the shop and we are only doing about five knots. Such a fine night that Teddy and I paced the deck until 11:30 P. M. Wind still S.W. and very light.

Jan. 24.—Kept jogging along all night under maintrysail and squaresail. Wind still S.W. and light. During the midwatch a shark had mistaken the rotator of our log line for something edible and swallowed it. He also bit the line off as clean as you could cut it with a knife.

Luckily, we had a large stock of rotators on board, and had a new one out in a very short time. At 7 A. M. another hole was discovered chafed in the squaresail. Lowered it down and patched it; then sewed on a lot of chafing mats, which did the business. On deck at 8 A. M., in time to lend a hand setting squaresail. Took sight for longitude this A. M. and worked it out. Wind continued very light.

Jan. 25.—Kept her going under the same sail until 5 A. M., when wind struck in from the north. At daylight set foretopsail; a fine whole sail breeze. At 6:30 A. M. downed maintrysail, shook out reefs and hoisted full mainsail. On deck at 8 A. M. in time to help set maintopsail. Yampa now under full sail and going fast; sea comparatively smooth. Teddy and I took sight for longitude about 9 A. M. and worked it out. Took a long trick at wheel and managed to raise a fine blister on my left hand. We had been logging off twelve and one-half to thirteen knots an hour all morning.

Just before noon all hands were rather startled for a second by a large whale—a finback—that came up to blow not more than 150ft. to leeward, and paid no more attention to us than if we had been a piece of driftwood. Had a good shot at the sun at noon and made our position lat. 36° 33′ N., lon. 42° 53′ W. Spent some time aloft this afternoon searching the horizon for "chums," but not a vessel was in sight. Wind continued steady all afternoon, and we were doing twelve and one-half knots and standing up like a church. At sunset wind freshened up and we clewed up and furled both topsails. Sea also picking up some. From noon until 8 P. M. we logged 103 miles, an average of twelve and seven-eighth miles an hour. Wind started to lighten up after 9 P. M., and kept shifting about from N. to N.E. At midnight we had hardly steerageway, and at the change of the watch we downed mainsail and set maintrysail.

Jan. 26.—During the early morning we ran into a rather heavy sea from the N.E. and had little or no wind to back it up. Looked as if it had been blowing very hard here from the N.E. a day or so ago. Wind still very light and shifting from N. to N.E. At daylight set foretopsail. On deck at 8 A. M., hardly steerageway and a heavy sea on. Under maintrysail, foresail and topsail, forestaysail and jib. Discovered a chum this morning, a barkantine, bound to the westward, with everything set. Went aloft with a glass to get a good view of her and

discovered another "chum," a "square-rigger," hull down to leeward, and bound east. Rather a hazy morning and could not see very far. Wind continued very light all morning, and we only logged about one and one-half or two knots an hour. Tried the new Winchester rifles this morning, towing bottles astern for targets. Sun broke through the clouds about noon and we managed to get a good sight. Our position at noon was lat. 36° 43' N., lon. (by dead reckoning) 39° 34' W. Wind died out completely at 2 P. M. and we were becalmed all afternoon and evening. Spent most of the time reading. Had the skipper to dinner and we all dressed for the occasion. First time any one has had on a "b'iled shirt" since we left New York. At midnight we were still becalmed and rolling around a bit.

Jan. 27.—Were becalmed until 4 A. M., when a light air struck in from the E. Sea had smoothed down a good lot during the night, and we were moving along at a three-knot gait. Turned out at 8 A. M. Wind still very light; under maintrysail, foresail and topsail, forestaysail and jib. Had a good sight for longitude this morning. At 10:30 wind shifted to S.E., and we took in maintrysail and set double-reefed mainsail. At 11:30 shook out reefs in mainsail and set maintopsail. Wind freshening somewhat, and we are now close-hauled for the first time this trip. Took a trick at the wheel for an hour or so, and found she was beautifully balanced on the wind. Our noon position was: Lat. 37° 05' N., lon. 38° 55' W.

Freshened up a little in the afternoon, and wind kept shifting from E. to S.E. Our course is now full and by. The change in temperature is very perceptible as we run up our latitude, and to-day is very raw and penetrating. All hands are now wishing for a warm S.W. wind. It clouded over somewhat during the afternoon and wind freshened up considerably. At sundown we clewed up and furled both topsails to snug her down for the night. Sea also started to pick up some. Wind continued steady all night, and we were on the starboard tack heading E. by N., two points to the north'ard of our course.

Jan. 28.—During the early morning it freshened up some, and by 8 A. M., when I got on deck, there was quite a big sea on. Wind still about S.E., but shifts a point or so either way at times. Our course is again full and by. Breezed up hard about 9:30 A. M., and we called all hands to double reef mainsail. Spent most of the morning at the wheel. My hands have now toughened up from pulling and hauling and will not blister again. Had a good sight at the sun, and our position at noon was: Lat. 38° 30' N., lon. 36° 02' W. We are nearly a degree and a half further to the north'ard than we wanted to be. Spent some time aloft in the afternoon looking for "chums," but there was nothing in sight. About 3 P. M. it clouded over and we had rain squalls all afternoon. Wind lightened up a little at sunset and sea was smoothed some. About 9 P. M. a heavy drizzle started in, and boots and oilers were called into play. Wind too let up all the time, and at midnight we had hardly steerageway.

Jan. 29.—Were becalmed until 3 A. M., when wind struck in from the S.S.E., and it started to rain in earnest, and smoothed down the sea a little. Wind rather light all morning, and at 8 A. M. shook out reefs in mainsail. Yampa now under full lower sails, and logging about seven knots. Wind continued about the same all morning, and it rained until nearly noon. Sun then broke through and gave us a chance for a sight. Our noon position was lat. 38° 45' N., lon. (by dead reckoning) 34° 04' W.

About 1 P. M. wind shifted to S.W. and struck in very light. Set maintopsail and started sheets all around. Such a sea on and wind so light that we do not run down our longitude very fast. About 4:30 it clouded over again and wind kept decreasing all the time. At 8 P. M. we were again becalmed. Clewed up and furled maintopsail and lowered and furled mainsail. Light air struck in soon after from the W., and we set maintrysail. Wind did not last very long, and at 10 P. M. we lowered and furled foresail to keep it from slatting to pieces. At midnight it was a dead calm. Yampa under maintrysail, forestaysail and jib, and rolling like an old tramp steamer.

Jan. 30.—Were becalmed until 4 A. M., when light air struck in from the N.W. Downed maintrysail and set mainsail and foresail. Still quite a heavy sea on and we were not making much headway. At daylight set both topsails, which helped her along a bit. Turned out at 8 A. M.; beautiful, clear day, but wind very light; we are only doing about three knots. Had a fine sight for longitude this A. M. Wind died out completely by 10 A. M. and we started in rolling again. Teddy and I spent all morning making sand bags for the lifeboat. She has a centerboard in her, and we are going to rig her up and knock about when in port. Still becalmed at noon. Had a good shot at the sun and our position was lat. 38° 25' N., lon. 32° 35' W. After luncheon we had some rifle practice, which lasted until 2 P. M., when light air sprang up from the S.W. It gradually increased, and soon we were logging ten knots. Took a trick at wheel and found she handled very easily.

Wind kept freshening all afternoon and we were doing 12½ knots. We resolved to drive her for all she is worth to-night, and try and make up for time lost while becalmed. On deck soon after; still carrying both topsails and going like a torpedo boat. Sea has commenced to pick up a bit, and we are throwing spray all over the place. From 7 to 9 P. M. we logged 26½ knots, an average of 13¼ knots an hour, which was fine work considering the large sea on. Wind and sea increased so much that at 10 P. M. we clewed up both topsails. Drove her along under full lower sail until midnight, then at the change of the watch double reefed mainsail, which eased her up a bit.

Jan. 31.—Wind kept breezing up all early morning until we were going like a horse. Sea increasing all the time. At 3 A. M. maintopsail clewline carried away, and as the topsail had not been furled it slammed and banged around for some time before it could be secured. Sent two men aloft to do the work and after some trouble they managed to lash it to the lee shrouds. At daylight wind moderated a little, but with heavy sea still running. Set foretopsail about 6 A. M., which made her steer much easier. Turned out at 8 A. M., rather a hazy morning and very raw. Sent two men aloft to reeve off a new maintopsail clewline.

Yampa under double reefed mainsail, foresail and topsail, forestaysail and jib and going very fast. Sun managed to eat its way through the haze about 9 A. M. and gave us a sight for longitude. On figuring it out found were abreast of Pico, Azores, but about thirty miles to the south'ard. Went aloft with a glass, but on account of the haze could see nothing. The fox terrier evidently could smell land. He kept standing with his paws on the lee rail and snuffing in the direction of Pico. Wind continued steady all morning, and were running down our longitude at a 10-knot gait. Had another good sight at the sun at noon, and our position was lat. 37° 51' N , lon. 27° 28' W

Rather a heavy rain squall at 1 P. M., which lasted for an hour or so; smoothed down the sea some. At 3 P. M. wind shifted to west and it cleared up. Headsails were doing no good, so we downed jib and took bonnet off forestaysail. At 4 P. M. we took an azimuth and also a sight for longitude. Wind increased a little about 5 P. M. and we clewed up and furled foretopsail. Crew then started in to rig up ground tackle. Took the plugs out of the hawse pipes, led the chains through the hawse pipes and back to the rail, where they were secured and ready to be shackled on to the anchors at a moment's notice. At 6 P. M. we lowered mainsail and set maintrysail. We were running down too fast and did not want to get to leeward of Ponta Delgarda. Wind started to increase after sundown and a howling old sea picked up. At 10 P. M. it was blowing half a gale, so we double reefed the foresail. At 10:30 gale increased, so we hove her to on the starboard tack under maintrysail, double reefed foresail and forestaysail, bonnet off. It started in to rain hard about midnight and the sea is running very high. We are jumping into the sea a lot; but Yampa is very dry and riding like a duck.

Feb. 1.—Wind shifted to W.N.W. during the early morning and blew harder than ever. Kept her hove to on the starboard tack until 5 A. M., then wore ship and stood in toward St. Michael's. During the night we had been headreaching a little all the time and had worked nearly twenty-five miles off shore. Our log only gave us credit for doing about three miles. On deck about 7:30 A. M., still blowing a gale and raining hard. A howling old sea on and a cold dreary morning.

At 8:15 sighted St. Michael's dead ahead and kept her on the wind so as not to get to leeward of Ponta Delgarda Harbor. Found we were not doing very good work under such short canvas and at 9:30 A. M. downed maintrysail and set double reefed mainsail. That at once put new life in her and also made us put our lee rail under. The skipper and I went aloft to look for the entrance of the harbor. Did not have to hang on very much, as the wind flattened you to the rigging so that it made it very hard to move. It was a grand sight from aloft to watch her plunging into the seas and the way she threw the spray from her bow was beautiful. Made a lee of the island about 10:30 A. M. and shook out the reefs in foresail and set jib.

Found we were a little to windward of the harbor and started sheets a little, and stood in toward the breakwater. Set a signal for a pilot. Just outside the entrance of harbor the pilot came alongside in a whaleboat. We luffed up and threw him a line. He would not come aboard, as the quarantine laws are very strict, and remained alongside in his boat and did the piloting from there. At 11:30 we let go the hook just inside the breakwater and sent up the quarantine flag. Teddy and I both agreed that the sail this morning surpassed any other we had ever experienced.

Our hook had hardly touched the bottom before we were surrounded by a fleet of small boats. The natives in them seemed to regard us as a curiosity, although Yampa had been here a few years ago. After waiting about an hour the health officer boarded us and gave us *pratique*. Made an arrangement with the pilot to tow us into the harbor proper and moor us. At 2 P. M. a little tub about 20ft. long came alongside and gave us a line. We then started heaving up anchor. Just as we broke out our anchor a squall of wind came along, and we started to drag the tug out of the harbor stern first. Had to let go the hook again. We repeated the operation three times before the tug managed to get us started. When we were at last under way and slowly moving up the harbor, the skipper, Teddy and I went ashore in the gig to have a look at the town. While rowing ashore we had a good look at Yampa; and from the condition of her paint, one would think she had been battling with the elements for months. The rust had managed to work through the cement, and left dirty yellow streaks all along her white sides.

W. IRVINE ZERREGA.

[TO BE CONCLUDED.]

Steam Yachts and Launches
BUILT BY MARINE IRON WORKS, Clybourn and Southport avenues, Chicago, Ill. Free illustrated catalogue. Write for it.—*Adv.*

Rifle Range and Gallery.

Pittsburg Rifle Club.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 28.—The Pittsburg Rifle Club held its regular weekly shoot on its indoor range this evening; the range is 40yds. Ittel again made the best average, and score in one string 90 out of a possible 100. The scores were:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Average
Ittel	..	..	..	90	78	76	..	..	81
Whiting	..	..	..	71	75	81	78	..	76
Staib	..	79	65	70	75	69	70	..	71
Lawrence	..	..	73	69	68	63	..	..	68
Hofmeister	78	60	69	69	69	69	64	..	67
Sorg	63	60	66	64	67	60	69	73	65
McClelland	..	65	67	62	..	..	..	..	65
Brown	63	56	70	77	48	67	..	..	64
Schmidt	59	67	58	69	69	67	..	..	63
Burt	..	..	60	55	52	..	..	..	56
Lautenslager	58	57	40	..	..	..	..	..	52

On Saturday, Jan. 25, A. Sorg and W. Hodgdon, two members of the club, shot a match on the out-door range at Wilkinsburg; the match was one of 60 shots, 200yds. range, highest possible score 600 points. Hodgdon won by 35 points, scoring 457 to 432. Scores were:
Hodgdon....79 77 70 76 81 74—457 Sorg.....68 70 77 66 75 76—432

Zettler Rifle Club's Tournament.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The two days' tournament of the Zettler Rifle Club closed this evening. The affair was a thorough success and the attendance of riflemen was very satisfactory. The headquarters of the club are at 319 Bowery, this city, and in those headquarters were gathered together during the tournament some of the very best rifle shots in the world. The range is 75ft., three tunnels. On the ring target three shots are allowed, the two best scores to count; the highest possible, of course, is 75.

The winners were:

M. Dorrier, Greenville R. C., 74, 72; F. C. Ross, Williamsburgh Shooting Society, 73, 73; L. Fiach, Zettler R. C., 73, 73; G. S. Weidman, Our Own R. C., 73, 73; Henry Holges, Zettler R. C., 73, 73; Dr. James A. Boyken, Zettler R. C., 70, 73; Charles Horney, Williamsburgh Shooting Society, 73, 72; M. B. Engel, Zettler R. C., 73, 73; R. Busse, Zettler R. C., 73, 72; L. Buss, Empire R. C., 71, 71; C. G. Zettler, Zettler R. C., 70, 69; W. F. Uhler, New York R. C., 70, 69; B. Zettler, Zettler R. C., 69, 69; J. A. Deats, Empire R. C., 70, 70; B. Walthers, Zettler R. C., 70, 69.

The winners on the bullseye target were as follows: C. G. Zettler, Zettler R. C., 6 degrees; Dr. James A. Boyken, Zettler R. C., 9; Henry Holges, Zettler R. C., 11; Philip Feigel, Zettler R. C., 11; L. Fiach, Zettler R. C., 13; H. D. Muller, Zettler R. C., 13; F. C. Ross, Williamsburgh Shooting Society, 13; Charles Horney, Williamsburgh Shooting Society, 14; B. Zettler, Zettler R. C., 14; James Bodenstab, Empire R. C., 14.

Cincinnati Rifle Scores.

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 26.—Payne and Hasenzahl shot a match to-day of 8 scores; Payne won by 10 points, scoring 634 to 624. The scores below were made by members of the Cincinnati Rifle Association under the following conditions: 200yds. range, strictly off-hand, standard target:

Payne	8	8	7	10	6	9	8	9	8	9—82
	6	9	9	7	9	10	7	9	9	8—83
	8	9	8	8	10	7	10	9	8	5—82
	9	10	8	10	5	9	9	6	7	8—81
Gindele	7	9	8	8	10	10	9	10	9	9—88
	8	9	10	9	10	8	9	9	8	8—89
	7	8	10	8	8	8	10	9	6	10—84
	9	7	8	8	10	10	8	7	9	7—83
Louis	10	6	8	7	5	6	9	9	10	8—81
	7	6	9	9	9	7	7	6	10	6—74
	5	8	10	10	8	10	10	10	10	8—89
	6	8	10	9	5	10	10	7	8	7—80
Roberts	7	8	9	10	5	10	9	10	7	9—84
	9	8	8	7	6	10	6	8	9	8—79
	6	7	6	9	9	7	8	6	10	8—76
	6	9	8	8	5	6	10	10	6	7—75
Weinheimer	8	6	6	8	10	8	4	8	7	10—78
	8	6	5	9	7	10	4	8	6	5—68
	5	5	9	8	6	6	7	5	6	9—66
	8	5	8	6	8	6	5	6	7	6—65
Wellinger	5	9	9	6	6	9	7	7	10	8—76
	9	7	7	6	6	8	10	8	8	6—75
	8	8	8	7	10	7	5	9	7	8—77
	6	5	8	9	9	7	8	7	7	8—72
Hake	4	6	8	6	9	4	9	6	6	6—63
	8	5	9	5	5	6	8	9	5	3—68
	5	6	7	7	7	5	4	7	8	9—66
	6	6	4	7	4	3	9	8	3	6—53
Randall	5	10	10	10	9	8	7	9	7	9—84
	8	10	7	8	8	8	7	9	9	9—83
	10	6	10	10	9	10	6	6	7	5—89
	9	6	6	7	8	3	10	8	10	8—75
See	7	6	10	9	8	7	9	9	10	8—80
	8	8	9	8	7	8	10	9	4	6—77
	6	9	8	9	7	9	6	10	9	7—80
	5	8	5	10	8	9	9	7	4	8—73
Brumback	9	7	8	4	7	6	7	8	5	7—68
	7	5	6	8	6	6	10	6	5	7—66
	6	9	7	5	5	5	9	6	6	4—68
	7	5	7	6	6	7	8	6	5	8—65
Speth	7	7	9	9	8	10	9	10	8	8—85
	9	7	8	8	8	6	6	10	10	7—79
	8	5	8	10	9	7	8	10	7	7—79
	9	8	5	9	5	7	7	7	5	9—71
Topf	6	1	9	8	9	4	4	4	5	8—58
	8	8	9	5	5	8	8	5	6	4—61
	6	7	7	9	6	9	7	5	5	5—66
	7	6	4	8	5	9	4	7	4	3—57
Hasenzahl	9	10	8	9	8	9	7	7	9	9—86
	10	8	8	9	9	9	10	10	9	6—88
	10	8	10	10	8	10	6	9	4	6—81
	7	7	9	7	6	8	6	8	10	9—77
Drube	5	7	9	6	8	9	10	10	10	10—84
	8	8	7	9	7	10	9	8	10	10—86
	9	6	9	10	8	5	8	7	7	10—79
	7	3	8	5	8	10	6	7	10	6—70
Strickmeier	8	7	5	7	6	5	9	9	8	6—70
	8	5	5	7	10	7	6	6	9	10—73
	6	9	5	7	7	9	8	5	6	8—70
	8	8	7	5	10	6	4	9	6	8—71
Trounstein	10	9	5	10	8	1	5	6	3	5—59

Columbia Pistol and Rifle Club.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 26.—To-day was one of the worst our riflemen ever experienced, and the wonder is that a single good score was made. The wind blew almost a hurricane, changing at times during the day to every point of the compass on the south. The members of the Columbia Pistol and Rifle Club were out in force despite the weather, and considering the conditions and the light bullets used, some excellent work was done. The new target is becoming better liked as the marksmen become better acquainted with the system of scoring. The scores to-day were:

Pistol: All comers', 3 shots: C. M. Daiss 8, A. H. Pape 12, F. O. Young 14, J. E. Gorman 16, Dr. L. O Rodgers 22.

Rifle: medal and cash prizes: E. Jacobson 11, Ed. Hovey 26.

Rifle, Unfred medal, 5 shots: D. W. McLaughlin 12, F. O. Young 17, Dr. Rodgers 18.

Military rifle, Glindemann medal: F. O. Young 45, F. Foulter 45.

In two practice scores A. H. Kennedy made 105 and 126 with a pocket revolver.

Dr. Lee O. Rodgers, president of the Columbia Pistol and Rifle Club, announced the cash prize winners for January and their scores, as follows: Rifle—First, McLaughlin, 12 points, Columbia target; second, F. O. Young, 12 points, being below McLaughlin according to Creedmoor rules; third, Dr. Rodgers, 14 points. Pistol—First, Charles Daiss, 8 points; second, A. H. Pape, 9 points; third, J. E. Gorman, 10 points.

BOHEL.

Trap-Shooting.

If you want your shoot to be announced here send in notice like the following:

FIXTURES.

Feb. 11.—DETROIT, Mich.—All day shoot of the River Range Gun Club; targets. R. H. Hall, Sec'y.

Feb. 12.—SPRINGFIELD, N. J.—Tournament of the Union Gun Club; targets. Open to all. E. D. Miller, Manager.

Feb. 12.—RUTHERFORD, N. J.—Invitation live-bird shoot of the Boiling Springs Gun Club. W. H. Huck, Sec'y.

Feb. 12—BALTIMORE, Md.—Baltimore Shooting Association Handicap; 25 birds, $25; no one allowed back of 30yds. Stanley Baker, Sec'y.

Feb. 12-14.—BUFFALO, N. Y.—Tournament at Audubon Park, under the management of S. F. Smith.

Feb. 21-22.—ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Tournament of the Rochester Rod and Gun Club; targets; team match, Rochester versus Buffalo, on Feb. 22. E. D. Hicks, Manager.

Feb. 21-22.—MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Winter tournament of the Memphis Gun Club; live birds and targets.

Feb. 22.—ROCHESTER, N. Y.—Return match at targets between teams of the Rochester Rod and Gun Club and the Audubon Gun Club of Buffalo.

DRIVERS AND TWISTERS.

Club secretaries are invited to send their scores for publication in these columns, also any news notes they may care to have printed. Ties in all events are considered as divided unless otherwise reported. Mail all such matter to Forest and Stream Publishing Company, 318 Broadway, New York.

The local trap-score-fake reporter has been at work again, hunting for "space" at the expense of truth. The following appeared in a Brooklyn, N. Y., Sunday paper: "About fifty persons witnessed a live-bird match at Dexter Park yesterday afternoon between William J. Clarkson and Allen W. Woods, two well-known experts at the traps. The contest was at 25 birds per man, 30yds. rise, with a 50yd. boundary, for a nominal sum and the cost of the birds. Numerous wagers were made at even money, but Clarkson won by the small margin of one bird." The actual facts were as follows: Allen Willey and Bill Clark wandered down to Dexter Park on the afternoon of the 25th, expecting to find some sweepstake shooting going on. When Clark got there he found Willey, the solitary arrival, trying his best to beat the proprietor, Lippack, in a game of "old sledge." Nobody else showing up, and Lippack being too good for Willey, the latter and Clark went out to shoot a few birds for practice. They shot at 15 each, for $10 and the price of the birds; each man scored 14 out of 15, one dead out of bounds; they then agreed to try 5 more to settle it; both killed their five and quit. Each man paid for his 20 birds, packed up his gun and slid out of sight on a trolley car. Fifty persons present! Numerous wagers!

The "Owl shoot of Kansas and the Missouri Amateur Trap-Shooters' Association's" tournament for 1896 will be held on April 28-30, at Joplin, Mo., under the auspices of the Joplin Gun Club, whose energetic secretary is W. G. Sergeant, the gentleman who made such an excellent record at the San Antonio mid-winter tournament. In connection with the "owl" shoot, the Joplin Gun Club will give a three days' target tournament, open to all, $1,000 added to the purses. The open-to-all programme will contain eight 20 target events, $2 entrance $30 added to each purse; there will also be four average prizes of a good solid cash value, in addition to which the 25 high guns that shoot through the entire tournament, not including average winners as above, will each receive $5.

We clip the following from the Austin, Texas, *Evening News* of Jan. 24: "A very interesting shoot took place last afternoon at the Driving Park by three of Austin's best marksmen, and genial Tom Keller of New York City. Wallace Miller and J. A. Jackson were pitted against Mr. Keller and Fritz Miller. The race was 100 empire targets at unknown angles. The men were evenly matched on the first 60 birds; but after that, the former team gradually pulled away from their opponents, and the grand finale showed Miller and Jackson 174 against 168 for Keller and Fritz Miller. Wallace Miller excelled in individual scores, killing 92 out of a possible 100; Keller came next with 88, followed by Jackson with 82. Fritz was in the rear with only 80 to his credit."

The Cobweb Gun Club, of New York, sent a 10-men team to Newburgh, N. Y., on Jan. 29, to shoot against a similar team representing the West Newburgh Gun and Rifle Association. President Brown, of the latter organization, has failed us this time, no score having reached us. Perhaps Jake Gedney may also be to blame in some measure. A canvass of guns, powders and shells of the 20 men shows: Francotte 8, Smith 4, Parker 3, Greener and Lefever, 2 each; Clabrough 1; 15 men used Schultze powder only; 3 used E. C., while 2 used Schultze in the right and E. C. in the left; 12 men used the Smokeless shell of the U. M. C. Company, the other 8 using the V. L. & D. special shell manufactured by the U. M. C. Company. The Cobwebs won, the score as we heard it being 82 to 78.

Richard H. Hall, secretary of the River Rouge Gun Club, Detroit, Mich., writes under date of Feb. 1 as follows: "At the annual meeting of the River Rouge Gun Club held at Joe Cavanaw's Jan. 7, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Wm. A. Furgason; Vice-President, Henry E. Visger; Secretary, Richard H. Hall; Treasurer, W. A. Cicotte; Captain, Joseph Cabanaw. The club has 26 members in good standing, with prospects of increasing same to 50 before spring. It was decided at the meeting that the club hold an all day shoot and conclude with a dance in the evening. A committee composed of Messrs. Furgason, Cicotte, Hall, Smith and Fleisher was appointed to make all necessary arrangements for the same."

Fred. J. Waddell, general agent of the Du Pont Smokeless Powder Company, of Chattanooga, Tenn., in a personal letter informs us that the gun clubs in the vicinity of that city are contemplating forming a league or association for the purpose of holding monthly shoots on each other's grounds during the season. The formation of such a league in any part of the country is one of the best things that can be done for the good of trap-shooting, and we shall be glad to hear that the boys of Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and Chickamauga have formed just such an organization.

B. F. Smith, of Audubon Park, Buffalo, N. Y., announces a tournament for Feb. 12-14. This tournament will be under the personal supervision of Mr. Smith and will be run to suit everybody as far as possible. Buffalo has a lot of good trap-shooters within her limits, and also has any number of nearby gun clubs, all of which may be counted upon to add their quota to the entries on Feb. 12-14. It must not be forgotten that the New York State shoot for 1896 is to be held at Buffalo next June under the auspices of the Audubon Gun Club.

A new gun club has been organized at Reynoldton, Pa., under the title of the Enterprise Gun Club. The club was organized on Jan. 18 with the following list of officers for its first year: President, John Owens; Vice-President, George Watson; Secretary, George W. Mains; Treasurer, J. F. Calhoun; Captain, Frederick Stephen. The club has gotten everything in good trim and all things point to a successful career in the trap-shooting line.

The Rochester, N. Y., Rod and Gun Club numbers some very warm shots among its members. Hicks's team of three men, Hicks, Meyers and Foley, broke 141 out of 150 in a recent team match shot on the club's grounds. A curious feature of the score is that each man broke 47 out of 50. Byer, the captain of the other team, also broke 47 out of 50. One must not forget that Sim Glover is also a member of that club!

The Rochester, N. Y., Rod and Gun Club will hold a two days' target tournament on Feb. 21-22. A full target programme of 8 15-target events, $1 entrance, will be shot off each day. On Feb. 22, the return match; Rochester *versus* Buffalo, 21 men to a team, 25 targets per man, will be shot. As the Rochester boys well understand the art of entertaining their guests there should be a large attendance on both days of this shoot.

The Interstate Association has arranged to give a tournament at Burlington, Vt., on August 26-27, under the auspices of the Lake Side Rod and Gun Club of that city. The association would like to hear from gun clubs in the State of New Hampshire with a view to giving a tournament in that State during the month of September. New Hampshire gun clubs should write to Elmer E. Shaner, manager, 122 Diamond Market, Pittsburg, Pa..

Louis H. Schortemeier, president of two or three clubs, secretary of half a dozen more, and treasurer of just about a dozen, was the first man to enter for the Grand American Handicap of 1896. Schorty is a good live-bird shot, but has never taken part in any event approaching the size of the Grand American. He, like dozens of other shooters, likes the new idea for the division of moneys in this event.

The Union Gun Club, of Springfield, N. J., will hold an all-day shoot on Feb. 12 at targets. Shooting will commence at 9:30 A. M. The programme contains 12 events ranging from 10 to 20 targets. There will be no handicap and nobody is barred; everybody is invited. Dr. T. J. Jackson is president of the club, while Enoch Miller performs the triple duties of secretary, treasurer and manager.

Piatt Adams, of this city, brother of A. W. Adams, who held up his end so well at the San Antonio midwinter tournament, has his eyes on the targets just now. At the Boiling Springs Gun Club's shoot on Saturday, Feb. 1, Mr. Adams made them all take a back seat, breaking just over 90 per cent.

The Baltimore Shooting Association announces another large live-bird handicap to take place on its grounds on Feb. 12. Full particulars of this event appear elsewhere in these columns, and if anybody needs anything further in the way of information, Stanley Baker, secretary of the Association, 1830 Madison Street, Baltimore, Md., will be able and willing to supply it.

When our issue for Feb. 1 was going to press it looked as if Willard Park, Paterson, N. J., would be selected as the scene of the great E. C. tournament in May. A talk with Noel Money since that date has elicited the information that the matter is still in abeyance, no place having been absolutely decided upon.

An announcement is made elsewhere of a four days' target and live bird tournament to be held on the Baychester, N. Y., shooting grounds under the auspices of the Cobweb Gun Club of New York City. Captain F. L. Train, of the Cobwebs, offers an attractive programme.

Wm. R. Parker, of the Elizabeth, N. J., Gun Club, writes us that somebody left a leather shell-case and a bunch of keys at the club house on the afternoon of the 100-target handicap race, Jan. 30. The owner can have same by applying to Mr. Parker, whose address is Elizabeth, N. J.

Local shooters will have plenty to amuse them on Washington's birthday. The Endeavor Gun Club holds a shoot on its grounds, Marion, N. J., on that date, while the Maplewood Gun Club, of Maplewood, N. J., also announces a live-bird and target shoot for the same day.

All Philadelphia vs. Delaware State team to-day (Feb. 1) at Holmesburg Junction, Pa. The Keystone shooting League has arranged a capital programme for to-day's sport.

The Morfey-Elliott match takes place this afternoon, Feb. 8, at Willard Park, Paterson, N. J. The match is set for 1:30 P. M..

The Boiling Springs Gun Club, of Rutherford, N. J., is getting up an invitation live-bird sweep for Feb. 12.

EDWARD BANKS.

Home City Gun Club.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Jan. 28.—The Home City Gun Club held an enjoyable sweepstake shoot to-day, open to Springfield shooters only. All events were at 10 birds, entrance 50 cents. The club charged 1 cent only for birds. The following scores were made:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6	Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ford	9	9	9	10	9	8	Mack	8	9	8	9	10	..
Strong	9	9	9	9	9	9	King	..	..	..	9	9	8
Marshall	9	9	8	9	7	8	Russell	..	..	..	5	..	4
Roy	8	8	9	8	8	7	McColm	..	..	..	6	..	..
Myers	10	7	9	9	8	8							

No. 7 was a miss and out; Roy won, breaking 11. HUGH L. FORD.

On Staten Island.

GERMANIA ROD AND GUN CLUB.

NEW DORP, S. I., Jan. 27.—The Germania Rod and Gun Club, of New York city, held its annual meeting and opening shoot for the season of 1896 at New Dorp, S. I., to-day. The following officers for the year were elected: President—H. O. Schmidtt; First Vice-President—C. L. Meyers; Second Vice-President—Dr. J. O. Wagner; Secretary—G. H. Becker; Treasurer—W. H. Glander; Captain—H. J. Knoebel; Board of Directors—H. J. Wolffman, R. V. Wagner, C. A. Gerlach, D. B. Kingsland and O. J. Stofeels; Shooting Committee—C. L. Meyers, Chairman, G. H. Becker and H. J. Knoebel.

This club is a target-shooting club, and the first prize for 1895 was awarded to Henry J. Knoebel, who had a percentage of 95½ in the club events. Next to him came Carl L. Meyers, who won the second trophy with a percentage of 94¾; third prize went to Richard V. Wagner, with 93¼.

The scores in to-day's club event were as follows, the scores counting for the yearly average prizes as above: William H. Glander (18) 14, George H. Becker (16) 13, Henry J. Knoebel (18) 12, Carl L. Meyers (16) 13, Charles A. Gerlach (16) 11, Herman O. Schmidtt (18) 11, Henry Wolffman (18) 12, R. V. Wagner (16) 10, W. H. Schneider (18) 9, J. O. Brehm (16) 9, J. H. Druse (16) 7.

CLINTON ROD AND GUN CLUB.

Jan. 30.—The Clinton Rod and Gun Club, of New York city, held its annual meeting and monthly club shoot to-day at the New Dorp grounds, Staten Island. A feature of great interest was the election of officers for 1896, of which the following is a list: President, David G. Schneider; Vice-President, James O. Barton; Treasurer, Thomas P. Longrief; Secretary, Richard D. Morgan; Captain, Edwin W. Schraeder; Board of Trustees, Dr. Emil Schraeder, William H. Smith, Louis G. Wilson, George J. Kingsland and Thomas P. Lee.

In the club shoot, which is at 7 live birds, Dr. Emil Schraeder led with a clean score. Scores in the club shoot follow: Dr. Emil Schraeder (28) 7, H. K. Williamson (27) 6, T. P. Longrief (26) 6, Edwin W. Schraeder (26) 6, G. K. Kingsland (26) 5, L. G. Wilson (26) 5, S. G. Porter (27) 5, Richard Williamson (27) 4, James O. Henderson (26) 4, A. W. Barton (27) 4, David G. Schneider (26) 3, T. P. Lee (26) 2, R. D. Morgan (26) 2, W. H. Smith (26) 2.

Future Tournaments in the South.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 1.—Although the Memphis Gun Club has announced that it will hold its annual tournament next May, it has decided to hold another which will be known as the Memphis Gun Club's winter tournament; it will take place Feb. 21, 22. This tournament will be conducted on a smaller scale than the one in May, though it should prove nearly as interesting. The first day will be devoted to live-bird shooting exclusively, and on this day will be inaugurated what will be known as the Memphis Gun Club live bird handicap; conditions: 25 live birds per man, handicap rise, entrance $10, birds extra; $5 to accompany nomination; four moneys, as follows: first money $100, second $75, third $50 and fourth $25; all surplus added, 20 entries to fill; 10-gauge guns, black powder and professionals barred. The club intends to make this a permanent fixture and to hold a similar event annually during the month of February. The second day will be devoted to target shooting. The programme on this day will consist of nine events—eight 15-target events and one 25-target event. To these the club will add $100 in cash as follows: $10 to each of the 15-target races and $20 to the 25-target race.

This year the Nebraska State Sportsmen's Association will hold its annual tournament much earlier than usual. The dates selected are April 21, 22, 23 and 24. The tournament will be held at Omaha, and will be conducted under the personal management of Frank Parmalee, Plumber Read and G. W. Loomis; this of itself is a guarantee that everything will be on a modern up-to-date basis; $1,000 in cash will be added to the purses; nobody barred.

The week following the Omaha tournament the Owl Shoot of Kansas and Missouri Amateur Trap-Shooters' Association will take place at Joplin, Mo., April 28, 29 and 30. In connection with this the Joplin Gun Club, of that place, will hold a three days' target tournament, open to all, with $1,000 added money. The officers of the club are E. D. Porter, President; C. W. Greene, Vice-President; W. G. Sergeant, Secretary, and W. F. Halyard, Treasurer. For programmes and further particulars address W. G. Sergeant, Secretary, Joplin, Mo.

PAUL R. LITZKE.

Limited Gun Club.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 29.—The Limited Gun Club has arranged with the Garden City Gun Club, of Chicago, for a team shoot on Feb. 22. Conditions: 10 men to the team, each to shoot at 25 targets, unknown angles—the losing club to present the winner with a picture or other suitable trophy for their club room. Each club will shoot on its own grounds and the utmost fairness is assured by the character of the gentlemen participating. The Limited Gun Club would like to hear from other clubs desiring to make similar matches. It is a good way to keep up the interest during the winter.

Appended are the scores of our weekly practice shoot to-day. Everybody being rusty and the targets thrown very hard accounts for the low average.

No. 1, team shoot, 25 targets, unknown angles:

Britton 21, Wessling 18, Robinson 18, Cooper 17, Grube 17, Lilly 16, Morris 16—123.

Townsend 21, Parry 20, Lockwood 19, Griffith 18, Wildhack 16, Richardson 13, Craft 11—118.

No. 2, same:

Britton 25, Cooper 23, Wessling 19, Grube 18, Robinson 18, Morris 11, Lilly 9—123.

Townsend 21, Polster 21, Parry 20, Richardson 15, Lockwood 14, Griffith 13, Craft 12—116.

No. 3, same:

Britton 24, Polster 23, Robinson 19, Townsend 15, Lilly 13, Griffith 11, Craft 10—115.

Cooper 22, Parry 17, Richardson 17, Holliday 17, Morris 14, Grube 14, Wessling 7—108.

No. 4, 15 targets per man, unknown angles:

Robinson 14, Parry 11, Polster 10, Cooper 9, Morris 5—49.

Britton 13, Townsend 9, Griffith 9, Holliday 7, Grube 6—44.

One hundred targets, unknown angles: Robinson 77, Lockwood 66.

ROYAL ROBINSON, Sec'y.

Baltimore to the Front Once More.

BALTIMORE, Md., Jan. 27.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* The Baltimore Shooting Association handicap for challenge cup, 25 birds, entrance $25, birds extra, will be shot on the grounds of the Association, commencing at 11 A. M., Feb. 12, and continued until finished; high guns, 40, 30, 20 and 10 per cent.; each participant to be allowed to shoot at his regular home club handicap; no one back of 30yds.

Shooters attending the Du Pont tournament held here in October last were all much pleased with our grounds, speaking of them in the highest terms. Two sets of traps will be run and an ample supply of strong, fast birds will be on hand, and everything will be done to insure the comfort and pleasure of the shooters. The tournament will be under the management of that crack shot and veteran manager, H. A. Penrose, and this in itself is a guarantee that everything will be done in the best possible manner.

Since the close of the target season Mr. Penrose has worked live-bird shooting in this vicinity to such a pitch that the boys are spending four afternoons of each week at the traps. We have had several good individual races within the month, one on Saturday last, 100 birds, $250 per side, and have four or five billed for the coming week.

A large delegation of out-of-town shooters is anticipated on the 12th, and ample arrangements will be made for their accommodation. After handicap is finished, the balance of the week will be devoted to sweepstake shooting. All shooters are cordially invited to attend and participate in the sport.

STANLEY BAKER, Sec'y.

Gilbert Accepts Avery's Challenge.

SPIRIT LAKE, Ia., Jan. 25.—*Editor Forest and Stream:* Returning to my home this morning, I am advised by Messrs. E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., of Wilmington, Del., of a challenge by Mr. John Avery, Burlington, Ia., to shoot a match for the Du Pont Smokeless powder championship trophy.

Mr. Avery proposes as a place for holding this match the grounds of Mr. John Watson, at Burnside, Ill.; as a date preferred, Feb. 22, and limits the number of birds to 50 per man; proposes to shoot upon the date agreed upon, "rain or shine." Accepting with pleasure the challenge of Mr. Avery, but standing upon my rights under the rules and conditions governing this contest, I will first say that Saturday, Feb. 22 next, and Watson's Park will be acceptable as date and grounds, provided the latter can be had. As privileged to do, I shall insist upon 100 birds per man, loser to pay for birds; 12-gauge guns and Du Pont Smokeless Powder to be used exclusively; in other respects according to conditions governing the contest.

Situated as I am, at considerable distance from Chicago, I will arrange with Mr. W. L. Shepard, of that city, who in my name and stead will name referee, and in other respects answer for me.

FRED GILBERT.

"Mascroft's Dream," set to music, is being distributed by the E. C. Powder Co., of Oakland, N. J. The "Dream" was composed at the annual fall tournament of the West Newburgh Gun and Rifle Association by Capt. Money, whose night's rest was broken by Mascroft's nasal intonations.

At Monte Carlo.

JAN. 18.—This week was brought to a close with two handicaps, £20 added to the purses. The first had 33 entries, Mainetto Ghido (28 meters) and A. Ginot (24 meters) dividing first and second money with 12 straight. De Hayes (a name assumed by an Englishman) and E. Ralto tied for third money, Hayes winning on the shoot-off by 2 to 1. C. Dolan (24 meters), of Philadelphia, Pa., killed 5 straight before dropping out. Scores, Prix des Narcisses Handicap of £20, added to a sweepstakes of £2 each; second received 30 per cent. of the entries, third 20 per cent.; 28 subs.

Meters.			Meters.		
28	Signor Mainetto Ghido (divided first and second prizes of £69 10s.)	12	30	Mr Roberts	4
24	M A Ginot (ditto)	12	26	Duke of Braganza	4
23½	M de Hayes	11	24	M Hannan	4
23	Signor E Ralto	11	23½	M Paccard	4
29	Count Trauttmansdorff	8	27	Signor Asti Cesare	3
29	M Journu	8	25½	Signor J Grasselli	3
24	Signor G Grasselli	6	25	M A Poizat	3
28	M Descharmays	5	24	M Lindes	3
24	Mr Dolan	5	26	M Pinson	2
			25	M R Gourgand	2
			24	M Duferron	2

Missed their second bird: Signor Nocca (25½), Grand Duke Peter of Russia (25), Mr. Halford (24), M. Dupont (24), Mr. Slow (23½), M. Bégule (23½).

Missed their first bird: Signor Gregorini (27), M. L. Moreaux (27), M. Lo (25½), Mr. Brinckman (25), Prince Poniatowski (25), M. Sergueneff (25), Count Erdody (24).

The second of the above handicaps had forty entries. First and second money—£80—was divided between Asti Cesare (27 meters) and De Hayes (24 meters), the Englishman, who won third in the above event, each man killing 12 straight. Robinson (24 meters), another Englishman, Pierre Sergueneff (24 meters) and Count Trauttmansdorff (29 meters) divided third money. Mr. Dolan again killed 5 straight before missing a bird. Scores:

Meters.			Meters.		
27	Signor Asti Cesare (divided first and second prizes of £80)	12	25	M R Gourgand	4
24	M d'Hayes (ditto)	12	26	Duke of Braganza	3
24	Mr Robinson	11	25½	Signor Nocca	3
24	M Pierre Sergueneff	11	25	Mr T Brinckman	3
29	Count Trauttmansdorff	11	24	M Albert	3
24	Mr Pearce	10	23½	M Bégule	3
25	Comte du Taillis	9	30	Mr Roberts	2
24	Signor Gregorine	6	28	M Descharmays	2
25	Signor J Grasselli	5	26	M Pinson	2
24	Mr Dolan	5	25	M A Poizat	2
28	Count Voss	4	24	Count Erdody	2
28	Prince Poniatowski	4	24	Count Esterhazy	2
			24	Mr C Hannam	2

Missed their second bird: M. Journu (28½), Baron de Montcholsy (26½), Signor G. Grasselli (24), M. L. Moreaux (24), M. Lindes (23½).

Missed their first bird: Signor Mainetto Ghido (28½), M. Lo (26½), M. A. Ginott (25½), Signor Ralto (25), M. de la Ville (24), M. Dupont (24), Mr. Halford (24), M. Paccard (23½), Mr. Slow (23½), Count d'Elsloo (23½).

Jan. 20.—To-day was another of those lovely days, exceptionally beautiful even for the Riviera, that have favored the shooters for the past ten days or so. Forty-three shooters took part in the Prix des Roses Handicap, the Hungarian, M. O. Vari, winning first money (£84) on 10 straight. On the shoot-off for second and third moneys, Comte du Tailles won second (£24) by killing his first tie bird; Signor Nocca won third money, £15. Scores:

Prix des Roses Handicap of £40, added to a sweepstakes of £2 each; second received 30 per cent. of the entries, third 20 per cent.; 43 subs.

Meters.			Meters.		
27	M O Vari (first prize, £84)	10	25	Signor Oresti Maldura	4
25	Comte du Tailles	9	24	Mr Pearce	4
25½	Signor Nocca	9	23½	M Paccard	4
28	Signor Asti Cesare	7	28	M Descharmays	3
25	Signor Briasco	7	26½	M Lo	3
28	M Lonbienne	7	25	Grand Duke Peter of Russia	3
28	Signor Calari	6	24	Signor Gregorini	3
28	M Paul Gervais	6	23½	M Lindes	3
25½	Signor G. Riva	6	30	Mr Roberts	2
25	Mr Robinson	6	28	Count L Gayoli	2
24	M Albert	6	25	M Pierre Sergueneff	2
26	Duke of Braganza	5	24	Count Esterhazy	2
23½	M Bégule	5	24	Mr Hannam	2
26½	Baron de Montcholsy	4	24	M Duferron	2
25½	M A Ginot	4	24	Signor G Grasselli	2

Missed their second bird: M. Journu (29), Signor Mainetto Ghido (28½), M. A. Poizat (28), M. D'Hayes (25½), Prince Poniatowski (25), Signor J. Grasselli (25), Count Erdody (24), Signor Pederzoli (24), Mr. Brinckman (24).

Missed their first bird: Count Trauttmansdorff (29), Count Voss (28), M. R. Gourgand (25), M. de Goulach (24).

Jan. 22.—The weather to-day was a continuation of that which has characterized the meeting of 1896 so far. It is just as perfect as that of the meeting in 1895 was bad. Additional shooters were on hand to-day, 55 taking part in the Prix de Mimosas, 12 of the number being Englishmen. The English contingent did very well too, H. J. Roberts and Pearce dividing second and third money (£51) on 12 out of 13. M. Duferron won first money (£93) by scoring his 13 birds straight. Dolan only got as far as the 5th round. Scores:

Prix des Mimosas Handicap of £40, added to a sweepstakes of £2 each; second received 30 per cent. out of the entries, third 20 per cent., 55 subs.

Meters.			Meters.		
24	M Duferron (first prize, £93)	13	24	Mr Dolan	4
30	Mr Roberts (divided second and third prizes, £51)	12	24	Grand Duke Peter of Russia	4
23½	Mr Pearce (ditto)	12	24	Mr Hannam	4
25	Signor J Grasselli	8	26½	M Lo	3
24	M Ides Van Houbrouck	7	26½	Signor Nocca	3
24	Signor Pederzoli	7	25½	Signor G Riva	3
29	Count Trauttmansdorff	6	25	Mr Robinson	3
23½	Duke of Braganza	6	24	Count Erdody	3
24	Count Esterhazy	6	24	Signor Gregorini	3
27	Signor O Maldura	5	23½	M Albert	3
26½	M Paul Gervais	4	25	M Poizat	2
25	Prince Poniatowski	4	24	M Thome	2
			24	Mr Sutcliffe	2

Missed their second bird: Signor Mainetto Ghido (28½), Count Voss (28), M. d'Ovari (28), M. Descharmays (28), M. Bruneel (27), Baron de Montcholsy (26½), M. Pinson (26), Signor Calari (26), Comte du Taillis (25½), M. Lonbienne (24), Mr. Erskine (24), Mr. T. Brinckman (24), M. Pierre Sergueyeff (24), Signor G. Grasselli (24), M. Lindes (23½).

Missed their first bird: M. Journu (29), Signor Asti Cesare (28), M. Howdetski (27), M. d'Hayes (25½), M. Ginot (25½), M. Gourgand (25), Mr. Halford (24), M. Chouquet (24), Signor Ralto (24), Mr. Mackintosh (24), Signor Briasco (24), M. de Tavernost (24), Comte d'Elsloo (23½), M. Bégule (23½), M. Paccard (23½).

Trap Around Pittsburg.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 31.—The live-bird shoot of the Herron Hill Gun Club, held to-day, was a great success, 14 shooters taking part in the 25-bird race, $20 entrance, and 13 shooting in the 10-bird sweep, $8. Among the visitors were B. W. Claridge and A. H. Kingsbury, of Baltimore, Md., and J. E. Wright, of Wheeling, W. Va. Claridge worthily upheld the honor of the Oriole State by actually killing his 25 birds without a miss, his 24th bird in the 25 bird race falling dead out of bounds. J. E. England (Bessemer) carried off the highest honors by scoring every bird he shot at. For his 25 straight he received $76.60; Claridge and C. A. May (one of Pittsburg's very best shots) divided second money, $56.70; McWhorter and Laughrey divided third, $37.80; while Jacques, with 22 kills, took fourth money alone, $18.90.

The 10-bird sweep was "four high guns." In this event Bessemer, Claridge and Fargo divided 90 per cent. of the purse, the remaining 10 per cent. being divided between three 9s—A. H. King, C. A. May and T. Farmer. The birds were a good lot, and much credit is due Louis Lautenslager, secretary of the Herron Hill Gun Club, for the success of the shoot, and for the satisfactory manner in which everything passed off. The scores were:

	No. 1.		No. 2.	
Bessemer	2222222222222222222222222	25	2221222222	10
B W Claridge	2122222222222212221111202	24	1121122212	10
C A May	1211211122211022122221111	24	1110221122	9
E H McWhorter	1120122212220122111221221	23	2101102202	7
T Laughrey	1122111112212222200221122	23	....	
J Jacques	0222122200222222122212212	22	....	
S Vandergrift	1112222110212002211122202	21	2222120002	7
A H King	21201222222201220212220	19	2111222220	9
W S King	22202122011201222222210	19	2202201021	7
A W Kingsbury	01212120112112120222210	18	1221010211	8
Cleveland	220221002200001112122	14	2221220001	7
T Farmer	222100011222100200022	14	0112222111	9
Fargo	122220220210222122200	15	2112212121	10
J E Wright	2011222102212022120	15	0012222211	9
Murray	....		2011010221	7

In New Jersey.

AT THE CARTERET CLUB.

Jan. 29.—The attendance at to-day's regular Wednesday afternoon shoot of the Carteret Club was very slim. Five shooters was all that could be mustered—Work, Knapp, Stafford, Lent and Morris. The latter indulged in some private practice prior to the arrival of the other shooters with a view to getting his hand in for a match that he was booked for; having shot at a large number of birds before the sweepstakes began, he was quite ready to take a back seat when his gun broke down and had to be put away. As a result, the other four shooters were kept busy walking to the score, twelve events being shot off by 4:30.

There is very little to be said about to-day's shooting; everybody was in poor form, nobody seeming to be half trying. Misses were so numerous that it became almost monotonous placing ciphers and little black dots on the score sheet. Knapp made the best average with 46 kills out of 57 shot at. Work came next with the low score of 43 kills to 61 shot at. Stafford scores 38 out of 60, Lent 27 out of 41, and Morris 12 out of 17. Work was shooting an old gun of his, a Baker, one with which he has done some great shooting in years past, but which has been laid on the shelf while its owner downed pigeons with a Purdey; the latter has been sent in for some repairs, hence the reappearance of the Baker on the scene. It is true that Work shot two or three different kinds of shells during the afternoon, but that wouldn't account altogether for his low score; the fact was he couldn't make the gun go where he wanted to point it, as he did of old; it apparently "fitted" him no longer. Peter Morris took a fancy to the gun and went out and killed 5 straight with it, some of them rattling good birds.

Of the other shooters, Knapp shot well at times, but seemed to lose interest, and consequently his time, at certain stages of the proceedings. This was particularly noticeable in No. 10 and in the first part of No. 11. He said he felt tired and slack, and he acted as if that was just what was the matter with him. Stafford was away off, and, drawing some very difficult birds, tried too hard to find them, getting slow and only filling his birds full of lead to see them drop dead out of bounds. Lent was as erratic as usual, killing some good birds and then slipping up on birds that anybody ought to kill.

So many small sweeps were shot that the score given below may be a trifle confusing. Following are the results in detail: No. 1 was a 5-bird sweep, $5 entrance; Knapp won first money on 5, Stafford winning second money on the shoot-off with Work and Lent. No. 2 was the same as No. 1; at the end of the 5th round Morris had only to kill to win first alone; he missed, letting in Stafford, Knapp and Lent; on the shoot-off Knapp and Stafford divided first and second on the first round. No. 3 was a $10 sweep, unlimited number of birds; 29yds. men and back, two misses and out; 28yds. men, three misses; 27yds. men and forward, four misses; Work and Lent divided, Work having killed 7 straight, and Lent being credited with 5 out of 6, with three more misses up his sleeve, against Work's two misses. Both men were shooting the same (Lent's) gun just then, and this was an important factor in the decision in favor of a division. No. 4 was a 10-bird event, optional $10 or $5 sweep; Knapp won first alone on 9 out of 10, Lent taking second money with 8 to his credit. Nos. 5, 6 and 7 were $5 miss-and-outs; Knapp and Lent divided the first at the end of the 2d round; Knapp and Work cut up the other two at the end of the 1st and 3d rounds respectively. Six rounds deciding three $5 events was a little too rapid, so recourse was had again to the favorite "5 birds, $5, high guns." For some cause or other, probably a misunderstanding, Knapp won No. 8 on 3 out of 4, although had Work killed his 5th bird and Knapp lost his, the two would have been tied for first place. Work and Knapp divided No. 9, and then Stafford shot out Knapp and Work in No. 10. No. 11 was a curiosity; at the end of the 5th round Work and Knapp were tied with 3 each, Stafford having lost 3 birds; on the shoot-off Knapp won at the end of the 2d round. In No. 12 Knapp won first alone with 5 straight, Stafford shooting out Lent on the tie for second money.

The last event we saw shot was a 5-bird race, $5 entrance, Bogardus rules, with the exception that the shooters stood at the 25yds. mark. That this was too far back under the conditions was clearly shown by the scores made, Knapp winning with about 3 kills to only 1 or 2 to his opponents' credit.

Considering that there was really little or no wind to help the birds, Superintendent Lumbreyer had an excellent lot of flyers on hand. They left the traps very fast and were very largely outgoing in flight. The best bird trapped during the afternoon was Work's 5th in No. 4; it was a pure white bird that lit out for Newark Bay as fast as it could fly, twisting like an English snipe and apparently evading both charges of shot. The weather was spring-like, the shooters sitting in the sun behind the score as if it was May instead of the heart of winter. The traps were pulled as follows:

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	Total.
Work	11	10	11	18	11	61
Stafford	7	11	16	19	7	60
Knapp	10	6	11	19	11	57
Lent	10	9	7	11	4	41
Morris	2	4	3	3	5	17
	40	40	48	70	38	236

The full scores were as below:

Trap score type—Copyright 1896 by Forest and Stream Publishing Co.

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.
Geo Work (31)	5 4 2 2 1 2 2 ↑→↑↑↖↖↖ 0 2 2 2 2 2 • —5	1 5 4 5 1 ←↖↰↖↰ 2 2 0 0 2 —3	1 4 4 2 3 4 4 ↗↗↖↖←←↖ 2 2 2 2 1 2 2—7
W A Stafford (28)	4 1 2 2 1 1 3 ↑↰↑↖↕→↖ 1 2 2 2 0 2 2—6	2 3 4 4 2 3 ↙↑↖↓→↰ 2 2 2 • 1 2—5	3 4 5 3 2 1 3 ←↗↰↓↗↰↗ 2 • 3 2 1 0 •—4
J P Knapp (31)	2 3 2 1 1 ↓↗↑↑↑ 2 2 2 2 2 —5	1 3 4 4 3 4 ↖↘↖↗↑↰ 2 • 2 2 2 2—5	2 4 3 5 2 ↑←↓↘↰ 0 2 1 2 • —3
W W Lent (26)	2 3 1 4 ↖↑←↰ • 2 2 0 —2	5 1 1 1 1 1 →↰↑↖↘↖ 2 0 2 2 2 0—4	2 4 5 1 2 2 ↑↑↰→↑↑ 2 2 2 2 2 0 —5
P H Morris (24)	5 3 2 4 3 2 ↘↖↑↰↗↗ 1 2 1 0 1 0 —4	5 3 5 4 2 2 ↘↑↖↖↗↰ 2 2 2 2 0 0—4	5 4 5 1 1 →↰←→↗ 2 1 1 1 0 —4

	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.	No. 7.	No. 8.
Work (31)	1 1 5 4 1 3 2 4 4 1 ↖↑↱↑↕↑↖↰↖↗ 2 0 2 2 0 2 2 0 2 2—7	2 4 ↑↖ 2 0—1	3 ↑ 2—1	5 1 2 ↗↑↑ 2 2 2—3	4 2 5 5 ←↓←↰ 2 0 2 0—2
Stafford (28)	1 3 4 4 3 2 5 5 4 3 ↗↗↱↖↗↗↑→↑↱ • 2 0 1 1 2 2 • 2 0—6	4 ↕ 0 —0	5 ↑ 0—0	3 4 3 ↑↗↗ 2 2 0—2	5 1 2 ↗↑↑ • 0 0 —0
Knapp (31)	1 5 3 1 1 4 4 4 3 4 ↗↖↰↗↑→↰↑↗↘ 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 2 2—9	4 5 ←↖ 2 2—2	1 → 2—1	3 4 3 →↑↖ 1 2 2—3	1 4 2 1 ←↗↑← 2 • 2 2—3
Lent (26)	1 3 5 5 1 2 4 3 3 3 ↖↑↘↑↰↖↗↑↖↗ 2 2 2 2 0 2 2 2 0 2—8	4 2 ↑← 2 2—2	3 ↗ 0—0	1 ↗ 0 —0	....

	No. 9.	No. 10.	No. 11.	No. 12.
Work (31)	2 3 4 4 4 →↱↰↑↑ 2 2 • 2 2—4	1 5 5 3 4 ↖←↗↑↰ 0 2 0 2 2—3	2 3 3 4 1 5 3 ↖↖←→↑↱↰ 2 • 2 2 0 2 •—4	5 4 3 4 3 ↑↖↕↕← 2 2 0 • 2 —3
Stafford (28)	2 3 4 4 5 ←↙↘↱↰ 2 2 1 0 0—3	4 3 5 2 4 ↗↑↖→↑ 2 0 2 2 2—4	1 4 4 4 2 ↰↗↱↰↗ 2 0 0 2 0 —2	2 4 3 3 4 4 3 ↑↑↑↰↰←↑ 0 2 1 2 2 2 2—6
Knapp (31)	4 5 4 4 4 ↑↖↗↖↖ 2 • 2 2 2—4	4 2 5 4 ↱↑↑↰ 0 2 0 0 —1	5 5 5 4 3 3 3 ↖↱↑↑↗↖← 0 0 2 2 2 2 2—5	1 4 5 5 5 ↗↑←↑↘ 2 2 2 2 2 —5
Lent (26)	4 4 2 4 ↑↑↑↙ 0 0 0 1 —1	....	....	2 4 3 4 4 4 2 ↗↑↑↖↱↑↖ 0 2 2 2 2 2 0—5

THE TARGET HANDICAP AT ELIZABETH.

Jan. 30.—The tournaments and other shoots held on the Elizabeth Gun Club's grounds have always been favored with fine weather; it has grown into a proverb with the New Jersey trap-shooters that Elizabeth shoots bring fine weather. To-day's target handicap race was no exception to the general rule, although it was perhaps the least favorable day for target shooting experienced by this organization. Early in the morning the sun came out bright and strong, the white frost on the roofs, sidewalks and lawns quickly disappearing. There was every prospect of a lovely day, one like its predecessor, Wednesday, one of the most perfect days of this remarkable winter. Between 10 and 11 a change came over the aspect of affairs; the clerk of the weather felt a touch of dyspepsia and turned off the sun, sending out a heavy leaden-colored pall to do duty for a sky, making everything gloomy and dull, turning what was originally a very fair background into something as near the color of the targets as one could imagine. The result is shown in the scores. Lower ones may have been made, but not on these grounds and not with such a body of shooters. Anybody who would have been willing at the start to bet that 85 would win first money would have been laughed to scorn. Yet J. S. Shaw won first money alone on 84 out of 112!

The weather was not altogether to blame for the poor scores; the way the targets were thrown had a great deal to do with it. More difficult shooting we have never seen. The targets were lined up and down the screen, the elevation at which they were thrown being entirely too low if A. S. A. rules were in force. This lowness of flight would not have been such a handicap had not the screen been too high by about a foot; a right or left-quartering target from either Nos. 2, 3 or 4 gained about 4 or 5yds. start of the shooter. With the targets thrown in such a manner, and with a background of a natural-colored fence, a few trees and a dark sky, it was no wonder the best of them fell down at times, the total scores suffering in consequence.

We do not believe in making the shooting too hard; it is apt to discourage beginners and get the best shots guessing for a time at least. For this reason we approve most highly of the plan now adopted by the manufacturers of both the standard target traps—the bluerock and the empire—that of placing stops on the traps, so that extreme angles in either direction cannot be thrown at will by the trappers.

The entry list could not but be satisfactory to the management; 19 entries at $7 a head, $2 out of each $7 paying for the targets, is an entry to be proud of, and is decidedly encouraging for future efforts. We understand that similar handicap races will be run monthly, alternate months, at the Elizabeth grounds and at the grounds of the South Side Gun Club, of Newark, the next one being set for Feb. 28 at the South Side Gun Club's grounds. Besides the above 19 entries, the management permitted seven other shooters to enter the race for the price of the targets, making a total number of shooters just 26. Considering the number of targets required to be thrown to complete the shoot, something over 2,700 (including the handicaps), it seemed poor policy to permit men to enter for the birds; it does not matter so much when the sweeps are short and small, but it seems a wrong principle to allow a squad of 6 men to go out and keep the others, who have put up their money, waiting while that squad shoots at 150 targets, 25 targets to a man. If the management is wise, and this refers also to the South Side Gun Club, it will announce when giving notice of its next handicap that no entries for birds will be taken in the handicap race. Elmer Shaner's face would be a study if a shooter went up to him and asked to be allowed to enter in the Grand American Handicap "for the birds."

The event was shot off in series of 25 targets, the handicap allowance not being shot until all had completed their scores for the 100 targets. No person knew his handicap until he had shot at the last target of that allowance. Men wen went out to the score with anywhere from 15 to 25 targets in their pockets and shot along until they were called out by the referee; those with 2, 3 or 4 handicaps soon had their agony ended, while others kept shooting along as if "they never would stop." Out of the 19 entries, 7 got money; J. S Shaw, with 12 extra targets, scored 84 and took first money; Carl von Lengerke and Capt. Money tied for second place with 88 each; Von Lengerke had 5 extra and Money 8 extra targets to shoot at. Third money went to J. Grier, of Dunellen, who scored 81 out of 110; fourth money was divided between Jim Elliott (scratch) and E. D. Miller (2 extras), who broke 80 each. Dutchy took the fifth money with 79 out of 104. Edwards, Folsom, Elmer Sickley, Piercy and Schrafft were all within easy reach of the money, an extra break or two being all that was necessary to make everything lovely for either one of them. Sickley's case was rather a curious one; he has been shooting a Winchester for the past year and has been shooting it well. Quite recently he sold it, but borrowing his brother's gun, came over to Elizabeth and entered for the handicap, expecting that the handicappers would take this matter into consideration. Sickley is a very good target shot, one of the many good ones in the New Jersey League, and was right in it with his 5 extra to shoot at; it should be well understood that in handicaps it is the men and their target-breaking capacities that are handicapped, not the gun. In framing the handicaps for this event the handicappers figured that a scratch man under the conditions as they then existed would not break more than 88 or 90 at the most; the object then was to bunch the others as close to the scratch man as possible, extra targets being awarded in such proportion as seemed likely to bring each shooter up to the 88 or 90 mark. After the start the light grew worse instead of better, a brisk breeze springing up at times and playing havoc with the scores, Jim Elliott, the scratch man, scoring only 16 out of his first 25! Noel Money's total of 50 out of his 100 was due largely to the breaking down of his gun; Morfey, who is a good target shot, also fell down very badly. Miller led by a good margin at the end of the 75th round with 62 breaks, and looked all over a winner; his last 25 caused him a lot of trouble, 9 of them getting away from him. The scores for each 25 and for the handicap allowance are as follows, the targets of course being thrown at unknown angles:

	1st 25.	2d 25.	3d 25.	4th 25.	Handicap.	Total.
J S Shaw (12)	16	20	17	22	9	84
C von Lengerke (5)	18	21	18	23	3	83
Capt Money 2d (8)	18	19	20	20	6	83
J Grier (10)	18	23	15	18	7	81
J A R Elliott (0)	16	19	22	23	..	80
E D Miller (2)	20	21	21	16	2	80
Dutchy Smith (4)	19	22	17	17	4	79
E Edwards (10)	19	16	19	17	7	78
H Folsom (16)	14	16	18	18	11	77
E Sickley (5)	18	19	17	19	4	77
Schrafft (13)	15	19	17	16	8	75
G H Piercy (12)	14	18	13	20	9	74
Hassenger (10)	17	15	18	16	6	72
T W Morfey (5)	20	17	17	12	w	66
M Herrington (10)	18	12	15	12	7	64
L Thomas (8)	14	15	18	14	5	61
Duff (12)	14	6	18	14	8	60
Capt Money 1st (8)	12	16	10	15	6	59
N E Money (2)	11	10	10	19	2	52
Reibold*	16	19	20	20	..	75
W C Collins*	17	21	16	17	..	71
Dr Jackson*	17	19	16	18	..	70
Agneau*	13	18	11	11	..	53
Ehrhart*	5	16	6	13	..	40
Dodds*	9	6	6	14	..	35
Huber*	4	7	10	9	..	30

* Only shot for price of the targets.

Both before and after the big event 10 target sweeps were shot off, entrance in each event being $1. Nos. 1 to 7 were at unknown angles; No. 8 was one man up, standing at No. 3 score, 5 unknown traps, one shot and retire, squads of 6 men; No. 9 was the same in all respects save that the second barrel could be used. The scores were:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Dutchy	7	9	9	8	7	10	9	7	9
Edwards	5	9	8	9	8	8	7	6	8
Herrington	6	7	10	10	9	8	9	..	..
Hassinger	6	8	4	10	5	9	8	4	..
Grier	6	6	6	4	6	..	8	..	..
Folsom	4	7	6	6	1	..	4	3	10
Thomas	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..
Astfalk	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..
C von Lengerke	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..
Collins	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..
Dodds	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..
Agneau	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..
Shaw	..	..	..	..	..	7	6	4	..
Morfey	..	..	..	..	..	7	7	5	4
Apgar	..	..	..	..	..	8	8	8	8
Piercy	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	8	6
N E Money	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	6	6
Leutheiser	..	..	..	..	..	7	8	4	..
Winters	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	..	..
Capt Money	..	..	..	..	..	7	8	6	7
Schrafft	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	..	..
Reibold	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..
Duff	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	..	..
Koegel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	7

EDWARD BANKS.

BOILING SPRINGS GUN CLUB.

Feb. 1.—The monthly club shoot of the Boiling Springs Gun Club, of Rutherford, N. J., was well attended notwithstanding the unfavorable condition of the weather. Platt Adams, one of our members, did some excellent shooting, tieing Eddie Collins in the club shoot, which is shot as follows: 25 unknown angles, 25 reversed order. Scores:

	Unknown.	Reversed.	Total.
P Adams	23	21	44
E Collins	23	21	44
W J Simpson	21	21	42
G E Greiff	22	18	40
Frank	19	20	39
W H Huck	18	20	38
James	21	15	36
Paul	20	16	36
Barron	14	16	30
Thornton	16	12	28
Marvin	8	10	18
Hartman	12	6	18

Other sweepstakes were shot as follows, all being at unknown angles with the exception of No. 4, which was at 5 pairs:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6
Targets:	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*25*
Adams	10	9	10	..	9	..
Greiff	8	8	9	8	8	20
Huck	8	8	9	8	9	21
Collins	6	8	10	..	9	..
Thornton	6	4	8	8	9	19
Marvin	4	4	7	..	2	..
Frank	..	9	..	..	9	..
Hartman	..	2	..	..	6	..
Paul	..	8	..	..	7	..
Simpson	..	..	8	7	7	19
Barron	..	..	6	7	8	18

W. H. HUCK, Sec'y.

SOUTH SIDE'S SATURDAY.

Feb. 1.—A heavy fog and moist surroundi s could not dampen the ardor of the South Side's Saturday followers. Over 800 targets were thrown during the afternoon, the scores being as follows:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Targets:	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*10*	*25*	*10*
W M Smith	5	4	6	6	4	3	5	19	9
J Dawson	6	6	5	5	7	9	6	14	5
A Whitehead	7	9	9	6	8	9	..	..	..
I H Terrill	7	5	..	9	6	4	..	17	..
L Thomas	..	6	7	8	3	6	6	20	9

No. 8 was shot as a team race, Thomas and Smith scoring 39 to 31 by Terrill and Dawson. W. R. HOBART, Sec'y.

NEW JERSEY TRAP-SHOOTERS' LEAGUE.

As announced in our issue of Feb. 1, the New Jersey Trap-Shooters' League decided, at its annual meeting held on Jan. 22, to change the conditions of its monthly team races from five-men teams and unknown angles to six-men teams and known angles.

The change from five-men teams to teams of six men from each club is one of which we fail to see the benefit. It has been proved by the past history of the League that it is hard enough for some clubs to put five-men teams in the field; the necessity for six-men teams will correspondingly increase the troubles of the captains of those clubs. We suppose that the idea of the League in adopting six-men teams was to do away with the breaking up of teams to fill a squad. For instance, the first squad consisted of a full team and a pivot man from the next team; second squad was made up of the remaining four men of that team and two of the third team, and so on. Of course, six-men teams will avert all that, each team being a squad by itself, if the system of shooting off the team races that prevailed in 1895 is observed this season. As, however, that system was in our opinion altogether wrong, we trust that the League will see fit to change the conditions still further.

Hitherto it has been customary to shoot off the teams in the order in which the respective captains handed in the names of those composing their teams. If the weather was dull and it was early in the season, a wise captain would hustle his men together and hand in the names of his team as soon as the manager was ready to receive them; he thus secured for his team the best light there was going. If there was a prospect of a thunderstorm it was just the same. The New Jersey League's shoot on the grounds of the Endeavor Gun Club last summer was a striking instance of the injustice of shooting the race by teams, the Endeavors themselves shooting under most unfavorable conditions. We believe firmly in splitting up the teams and shooting them so that no two men from any one team are in the same squad. Suppose there were nine teams entered: The first squad would consist of a man from each of the first six teams; squad No. 2 would be made up of men from the last three and the first three teams; squad No. 3 would be composed of men from the last six teams; thus at the end of the third squad each team would have two men that had shot off their scores. This system, one that is most generally adopted where there are only three or four teams, could easily be applied as above to the team races of the New Jersey League. It would do away with the advantages of better light and less wind liable to accrue to one or more teams while a lengthy team contest is being decided on the system of each team a squad by itself.

It is true that the system suggested would mean more work for the manager of the League, but what is a manager appointed for, if he is to have no work to do beyond figuring up averages at the end of the year and taking care that the League score book is on hand at all the monthly shoots?

There is an additional benefit attached to the above-suggested plan: Many men can only get to the grounds somewhat late in the afternoon, while others again have to leave early; it often happens that these men are members of the same team. League contests are advertised to commence at 2 P. M., and they should commence certainly not later than 2:30. With squads split up as above suggested, there is no reason why the League contests should not be started on schedule time. The feature of the idea that recommends it most strongly to us is that it is the nearest approach to absolute equality of conditions, a feature that has been strikingly absent in some of the previous contests, the conditions of light and wind in those contests having been very changeable.

The change from unknown to known angles is in accordance with our opinions expressed in our issues of Feb. 23 and April 27, 1895. As these contests are tests of skill, and only short ones at that, 25 targets per man, it seemed to us wrong that so great an element of luck as is permitted under unknown angles should be allowed to exist in the League contests. In a long race, say at 100 targets, we believe the "luck of the birds" will be equalized, but the League contests are not long races. By adopting known traps and angles, every shooter is treated alike; each man gets 5 straightaways, 10 right-quartering and 10 left-quartering targets. "Known traps and angles" is not a sporting, perhaps not even an interesting, way of shooting at targets, but it is more favorable to young and struggling clubs than unknown angles. It does away also with the possibility of some of the visiting shooters getting the impression that the home club has "fixed the trappers," or that the trappers are favoring the home team.

Split up the teams and give the boys known angles, and there cannot be any grounds for a kick, however slight, at any of the League contests in 1896. The interest in each monthly shoot will also be kept up until the last round, instead of fading away rapidly after some team has made a big score.

Peters Defeats Blake at Omaha.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 29.—M. C. Peters and F. H. Blake, both of this city, shot a live-bird race to-day under the following conditions: 100 birds per man, $100 a side, 30yds. rise, A. S. A. rules to govern. Although neither man made a large score, Peters won very easily scoring 80 to his opponent's 70. Both men used Greener guns, 48grs. of E. C. powder and No. 7 shot; Peters used a Rapid shell, Blake a Smokeless. The scores were:

Trap score type—Copyright 1896 by Forest and Stream Publishing Co.

M C Peters:
1 4 2 1 5 4 1 5 4 3 1 4 4 2 2 3 5 3 1 3 2 2 1 3 5
↙↘↰↱→↱↖↖←↗↗←↑↑↘↖→↗←↑↖↓↙↗→
1 2 0 2 2 2 2 1 1 2 1 2 0 2 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 2—22

1 5 2 3 1 5 3 2 2 1 3 2 4 4 2 4 2 1 3 5 4 3 2 5 2
↑→↰↰↰↑→↗↖↰↰↖↱↑↑↱↓↖←↘↗↖↖↗↗
1 1 2 0 2 0 2 1 • 0 • 2 1 2 2 0 2 1 1 1 2 0 2 0 1—17

1 4 3 3 5 4 3 5 5 4 1 2 2 3 5 3 1 2 3 1 2 1 5 3 5
↰↖↖↗↗↖←↗↰↖↙↖←↖→↙←↰↰↘↘↗↖↗
1 2 2 2 1 2 0 0 • 2 1 • 0 1 2 0 2 2 2 1 1 1 0 2 2—18

1 1 4 3 1 5 4 5 2 1 5 4 5 5 5 1 3 4 1 5 4 5 2 4 3
↗↱↗↘→→↗↘↗↙↘↖↙↖→↗↗↱↖↗→↙↰↗↗
2 1 1 1 2 2 2 1 1 2 2 1 1 2 2 0 2 • 2 1 1 2 2 1 1—23—80

F H Blake:
5 3 5 2 1 3 3 2 3 5 2 3 1 5 4 1 5 2 4 4 5 5 4 1 4
↑↓↱↙↰←↑↰↑↗↖↕↖→↑↖↓↱↘→→↗↘↖↙
2 1 2 2 1 • 2 2 1 • 1 0 0 1 0 0 • 2 1 1 2 0 1 2 2—17

3 2 4 4 2 1 5 4 5 4 5 1 3 5 1 3 5 4 2 1 5 1 2 4 3
↑↙↗H←↙↗↗↰↖↱↖↖↰↑↰↘↖↗H↘↖↗↖↙
0 2 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 1 2 2 0 0 0 1 2 1 0 2 1 0 0 2 0—16

5 2 4 2 1 1 2 2 1 3 3 4 4 1 5 2 4 4 2 5 5 2 3 4 2
↘↰↑→↱↖↰↖←←↱→↔↗↘↰↰↘↗↘H↑↗↰
2 0 0 2 2 2 0 1 1 2 0 0 2 1 2 1 0 1 1 2 2 1 0 1 1—18

4 2 5 1 3 2 3 1 4 3 2 2 2 3 2 5 1 2 3 3 2 2 1 5 2
↖↙↓↑↑↖↗↙↗↗↰↘↑↗↘←↗↖↓←←→↗↙
2 2 2 • 2 0 0 1 2 1 1 2 2 0 2 • 0 1 1 1 2 2 1 2 2—19—70

F. S. PARMALEE

Cobweb Gun Club's Programme.

THE Cobweb Gun Club, of New York city, one of the most go-ahead organizations in the State of New York, has taken another important step in its onward movement. The announcement that the club will hold a four days' tournament, March 18-21, will not astonish any shooter who is acquainted with the *personnel* of the club's management. Under date of Feb. 21 F. L. Train, captain of the Cobwebs, writes as follows:

"Will you kindly insert the inclosed notice of our tournament under the head of "Fixtures" in your paper. We have chosen the dates March 18-21 inclusive with a view to giving the visitors to the Sportsmen's Exposition an opportunity of indulging in a little recreation at the traps. A great deal of care has been given to the selection of the events, and it is our aim to make it satisfactory to all sportsmen. There are in all 28 events, 20 at targets and 8 at live birds. On Saturday, March 21, the Cobweb handicap will be shot; conditions: 15 live birds per man, $15 entrance, birds extra, handicaps from 25 to 33yds., 4 moneys, 40, 30, 20 and 10 per cent., guaranteed purse of $250 and all surplus added. This, as a preliminary to the Grand American Handicap, will give the boys an opportunity to 'sharpen up a bit' and get 'fit.' The privilege of the grounds are extended to all visitors to the Sportsmen's Exposition."

The club's grounds are located at Baychester, N. Y., and are easily reached from this city by trains on the Harlem division of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R., which leave 129th street station of the Third Avenue Elevated every hour. The club's headquarters are at 2312 Third avenue, New York; any communications in regard to further information should be addressed to the captain, F. L. Train, as above.

On Long Island.

HELL GATE GUN CLUB.

Jan. 22.—The monthly live-bird shoot of the Hell Gate Gun Club was held to-day at Dexter Park, the attendance of members being remarkably good; 29 shooters took part in the club event, which was at 10 live birds per man. Louis Schortemeier was the only one of the 29 to go straight, the club's 1895 champion, P. Woelfel, falling down to 5 out of his ten. That the birds were a good lot is shown by the fact that there was only one 9 and four 8s. The scores made were as follows:

L Schortemeier (28)	2222222222—10	J P Dannefelser (28)	0121022002—6
G Dege (28)	2111220112—9	R Regan (28)	21001001•2—6
G Nowak (28)	•22222•222—8	F Trostel (28)	2100100011—5
C Weber (28)	1202111011—8	P Woelfel (28)	1010100011—5
S J Heid (28)	2011•22•11—8	P Gespil (28)	0101201010—5
H Block (28)	0211011121—8	A Steffans (28)	0200211010—5
A Schmitt (28)	1120•21110—7	C Rieger (25)	0102200012—5
J H Voss (28)	2102201012—7	J Scheu (25)	1210010001—5
A Knodel (28)	0200112221—7	C Newman (25)	121•020200—5
A Krieble (28)	2011012101—7	E Marquardt (28)	2100000100—3
E Peterson (28)	2011010122—7	C Robenstein (28)	0120000000—2
E Doenick (28)	12100•2222—7	H W Voss (28)	1000020000—2
A Kreuder (25)	0210122011—7	J Long (28)	0002000002—2
J Schlicht (28)	•021120120—6	J Link (28)	0000100000—1
R Lindicer (28)	2210012010—6		

SWEEPSTAKES AT DEXTER PARK.

Jan. 20.—A few friends gathered together this afternoon at the Dexter Park grounds and shot the following events at live birds:

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.	No. 5.	No. 6.
J Weberson	0021212022—7	22—2	211—3	11200—3	01010—2	11100—3
P Flaherty	0210011002—5	11—2	110—2	01100—2	.....	.....
J Burg	1002120100—5	00—0	...	.....	.....	.....
A Schlieman	1121111101—9	11—2	...	11122—5	.....	11121—5
W Batts	0100010100—3	10—1	102—2	12110—4	00000—0	.....

EXCELSIOR ROD AND GUN CLUB.

Jan. 23.—The Excelsoir Rod and Gun Club held its opening shoot for 1896 at the North Beach grounds this afternoon. The club shoot is at 10 live birds per man, and to-day this event was won by W. H. Archer, who tied for first place on 9 out of 10 with two other members of the club, Heimburger and Jackson. The three shot off the tie miss-and-out, Archer scoring 3, Heimburger 2 and Jackson 1. The scores in the club shoot were:

W. H. Archer (26) 9, H. K. Jackson (26) 9, H K Heimburger (29) 9, G. W. Orton (26) 8, T. E. Richards (26) 8, S. R. Williams (27) 7, D J. Kingsland (27) 6, R. E. Deegan (28) 7, B. J. Williams (26) 6, A. T. Siegel (28) 5, T. L. Henderson (26) 5, J. W. Odell (26) 5, D. G. Nelson (26) 3, L. G. Wilson (26) 2.

BERGEN ROD AND GUN CLUB.

Jan. 20.—The Bergen Rod and Gun Club, of Brooklyn, N. Y., held its annual meeting this evening at the club's headquarters, Court street, near Atlantic avenue. The distribution of prizes for 1895 was part of the evening's proceedings. Robert J. Valentine won the first prize with 96½ per cent.; second prize went to J. W. Reynolds with 94¾ per cent.; third prize was won by P. J. O'Brien with 89¼ per cent.

The following is a list of the officers elected for 1896: President, Robert L. Valentine; First Vice-President, James W. Reynolds; Second Vice-President, Carroll B. Williamson; Secretary, Leonard J. Browning; Treasurer, Charles L. Pierson; Captain, Patrick J. O'Brien; Board of Trustees, James W. Reynolds, Henry L. Raymond, Charles L. Grey, Daniel W. Longman and Albert D. Griffiths.

DR. LITTLE DEFEATS LAIR.

Jan. 29.—Dr. Little and W. H. Lair shot a 50-bird match to-day on the grounds of the New Utrecht Gun Club at Woodlawn. The birds were only a moderate lot, not up to New Utrecht standard. The conditions of the race were: 50 birds per man, 25yds. rise, 50yds. boundary, use of one barrel only, loser to pay for the birds, and a stake of $50 a side. G. Van Nostrand acted as referee throughout the race.

At the end of the first half the score was a tie, each man having 18 out of 25 to his credit. Out of his next 5 birds Lair lost 3 to his opponent's 2; the next 5 birds were fatal to Lair's chances, as he lost 4 out of the 5 while Dr. Little only lost 1 of his lot. At the end of the 42d round Lair withdrew, being practically shot out of the race, the totals showing 31 to 25, a lead of 6 for Dr. Little with only 8 more to shoot at. The winner shot 48grs. of Schultze in a V. L. & D. shell, his gun being an L. C. Smith; Lair's gun was a Greener, and his load was 49grs. of Schultze in a trap shell. Below is the score in detail:

Trap score type—Copyright 1896 by Forest and Stream Publishing Co.

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            3 1 2 2 3 4 1 5 1 5 2 3 1 3 4 5 3 3 5 5 4 1 2 3 1
Dr Little...0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 1—18
            1 2 1 5 5 3 5 2 1 5 3 2 4 5 3 2 5
            1 1 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 0 1 1             —13—31
            4 5 2 2 1 3 4 3 1 5 1 2 1 1 1 2 1 1 5 5 5 5 5 3 1
W H Lair....1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 4 1—18
            5 1 1 4 5 2 5 3 4 3 3 5 5 5 5 2 2
            0 1 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 w           — 7—25
```

The following four sweeps were also shot. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 were 5-bird sweeps, ties being shot off miss-and-out; No. 4 was a 3-bird sweep. Scores:

	No. 1.	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.
Lair	•120—2	0222222—6	21222—5	202—2
Little	22021—4	1022220—5	21200—3	2•0—1
Van Ord	12212—5	2100 2	•2200—2	21•—2

Trap Around Buffalo.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 20.—To-day the third and last 100-bird race between Fred. Emond and Jacob Koch was brought to a conclusion, Emond winning easily by 11 birds. In the first match darkness put an end to the contest at the end of the 98th round; in the three matches, therefore, each man has shot at 298 birds; out of that number Emond has scored 261 to Koch's 247. Koch made an excellent score in the second match, but did not win; on that account he changed his shells; this change was, I think, in a great measure the cause of so many of his birds going out of bounds before dropping. After the 75th round Emond shot in a careless, easy-going manner, as if the match was all over, as it really was, since Koch kept on losing bird after bird dead out of bounds. There is some talk of a match between Otto Besser, Jr., and Emond, but it seems hard to get them to come to terms. The score of to-day's match is below:

```
J Koch.......2002212201•2121202220121—18
             2101221121011121220121011—21
             112•110112200•11112201•21—18
             1121122102121211211•1••1—20—77
F Emond......0112121122111•111211212012—22
             11212121•21222221121212 1•—23
             1111111021111110111122111—23
             2•220•1011111111121101121—20 88
```

Jan. 25.—At the Audubon Gun Club's weekly shoot to-day the scores given below were made by the members present:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	Events:	1	2	3	4	5
Targets:	*15*	*10*	*15*	*10*	*15*	Targets:	*15*	*10*	*15*	*10*	*15*
H Kirkover	..	..	..	4	6	Miller	9	6	13	7	6
Forrester	14	7	13	9	9	J Fisher	9	9	9	8	5
Dr Woodbury	7	..	..	6	4	E Burkhardt	10	7	9	7	..
L W Bennett	13	8	5	8	7	E W Smith	10	6	12	..	9
Norris	8	8	12	9	7	Storey	10	4	9	5	8
Rennicke	9	7	8	..	4	P Meyers	11	..	8	5	8
Hanks	13	5	13	..	6	J O'Brien	12	..	..	..	7
Williams	9	5	7	5	5	B Talsma	12	..	..	..	..
McArthur	11	8	11	..	10	Brown	8	..	..	11	..

In a miss-and-out, $1 entrance, B. F. Smith defeated Kirkover by 2 to 1. E. C. Burkhardt then tackled Smith in a similar race, 25 cents being added to the stakes for each additional bird shot at; Smith won this event by 6 to 5. A similar event was won by Burkhardt, who scored 2 to Smith's 1. These two then shot another event of the same nature, darkness putting an end to it with the score a tie. B. F. S.

Meadville Gun Club.

MEADVILLE, Pa., Jan. 29.—A few members of the Meadville Gun Club shot some target events this afternoon, H. A. Johnson doing some capital work in the two 25-target events, the scores of which are given below:

	No. 1, unknown angles:	No. 2, same:
H A Johnson	1110110111111111111110111—22	1111111111111110111111111—24
P Adams	1101101110111110111010101—18	1111111001101011011111011—19
Hayes	0111001101101001101011011—15	1110001101111010111001111—17
Prenatt	1101111100111011100001111—17	1011110111111110111111101—21
Stein	0110101100001110111111011—16	1101110110011111111111011—20
Krider	1110111001011111100011101—17	....
Reisinger	0001111101110100101110100—14	1111101111111111110101111—22

CHOKE BORE.

The Utica Tournament.

UTICA, N. Y., Jan. 24.—The two days' tournament which ended to-day was a very pleasant affair, although the attendance was not large. Quite a number of targets were thrown, 23 shooters in all taking part in the programme and extra events shot yesterday. Among those present from a distance were: Chas. Wagner, of Syracuse, A. and M. Barker, of Richfield; McCauley, Brainard and Paddleford, of Sherburne, etc. The scores made on that day were as given in the table that follows, all the events being at unknown angles:

Events:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Targets:	*15*	*20*	*15*	*20*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*	*15*
Glover	12	13	11	18	18	15	11	11	11	15	11	11
Wagner	13	17	10	16	14	14	9	10	12	13	13	14
M Barker	13	14	12	14	12	11	12	9	14	12	12	13
A Barker	12	13	11	17	9	10	10	12	10	12	12	..
Youmans	8	..	7	..	6	..	..	..	5	..	..	..
E D Fulford	13	19	12	18	14	12	14	13	13	10	10	14
Conley	7	..	..	14	9	8	4	..	..	..	..	..
J Fulford	10	16	10	17	9	9	..	..	..	10	..	..
M M M	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..
Mayhew	..	17	9	14	10	12	10	13	..	11	11	13
Williamson	..	13	..	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Barlow	..	11	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuttle	..	..	8	10	9	10	9	11	12	10	11	..
Buner	..	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	4	..
Judson	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	12	13
Armstrong	..	..	10	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..
C Browne	..	..	..	8	..	5	9	2	..	..	..	..
Fairchild	..	..	..	..	11	8	..	14	..	..	8	..
Biddlecom	..	..	..	..	..	7	5	..	9	8	9	..
Steel	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	..	6	..	..	..
Holmes	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Carr	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	7	11	..	..
Cackett	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..

To-day was live-bird day and in consequence there was a good attendance of both shooters and lookers-on. Among the new faces were: E. C. Burkhardt, Buffalo; T. C. Pegnim, Canajoharie; George Mosher, of the Syracuse Arms Company; A. S. White and George, of Syracuse; etc. From the commencement of the shooting until about 1 P. M., the weather was most disagreeable; after lunch the weather improved a little and the birds in consequence flew much better. The handicapping was placed in the hands of H. L. Gates, of this city, as he was the best posted man on the merits of the shooters. As a whole the day was an unfavorable one for live-bird shooting, and the scores suffered in consequence. The scores were:

	No. 1	No. 2.	No. 3.	No. 4.
Pegnim	0220122220—7	02220 —3	120 —2	02200122010222220l•2—13
Weller	2212202122—9	21010 —3	.....	00011222002221221221—16
Burkhardt	0212021000—5	1122202—6	20 —1	10212222•2•0011222 2—14
Glover	22•1220200—6	....	.....	2101•2211222122l002—16
A S White	1021121122—9	211010 —4	.....	222200•121120211212•—15
George	1022•02221—7	2221011—6	.....	00212011222020212010—13
B F Smith	0220200222—5	0022222—5	20 —1	200220221112•220202—14
Williams	0220001010—4	1100012—4	.....	21121212l2•21122201 2—18
Gates	0121200002—5	1200200—3	120 —2	02000200 — 2
E Fulford	2222101•12—8	2220112—6	12111—5	20221211111222011011—17
Mayhew	2222220112—9	2222222—7	11221—5	22022012010222222021—15
Paddleford	1122211021—9	....	.....	20222201222111122112—18
Hunter	....	2122111—7	21111—5	....
Scott	....	2001110—5	.....	....
Brainard	....	....	.....	20021102200200 —7

No. 1 was 10 birds, $5; No. 2, 7 birds, $5; No. 3, a miss-and-out; No. 4 was the "Central New York Handicap," 20 birds, $15. Birds at 25 cents each included in all the above entrance moneys.

J. W. FULFORD.

Boston Gun Club.

BOSTON, Jan. 29.—Another beautiful afternoon greeted the shooters of the Boston Gun Club at Wellington this afternoon, and evidently the conditions were not to be denied, as nineteen in all graced the club's platform during the different events. The traps were allowed no leisure until darkness came to their rescue. Only one straight score appeared out of about 800 targets thrown 10 bird, known angles, and it is hardly so much the absence of skill on the part of the shooter as the variety of the known (?) angles which can be held accountable for the nines, eights and sevens that are so much easier to secure. Such a thing as monotony is unknown at the Boston Gun Club, and the targets are thrown with the greatest regard for fairness, but with a certain disregard for regularity. The target may be high, low, fast or slow, and nothing so confuses the modern trap-shooter accustomed to the regulation five-trap angles as the promiscuous flights from assorted traps. The nearer one can approach field shooting, the nearer such comes to be the highest form of practice, and together with the ever-present zero, we derive a certain amount of consolation from this and from the fact that "there are others." Scores below:

Events:	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10*	*11*	*12*	*13*	*14*	*15*	*16*
Targets:	10	5	6	10	10	5	6	10	5	6	10	10	5	10	10	10
Sheffield (15yds.)	6	3	5	10	8	2	2	8	4	3	7	..	..	5	..	..
Howe (17)	7	5	2	6	8	4	4	8	5	3	6	..	..	..	..	..
Williams (15)	6	..	2	8	..	..	..	6	2	1	..	..	5	..	..	..
Horace (14)	..	..	5	9	6	..	5	9	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gordon (17)	..	..	..	9	8	3	3	9	3	4	8	5	2	7	7	6
Brown (15)	..	..	..	9	4	4	3	9	4	4	4	2	4	6	5	5
Johns (15)	..	..	..	..	7	5	2	7	2	3	5	4	3	4	4	3
Mason (16)	..	..	..	..	7	4	5	9	3	4	8	9	4	8	7	2
Miskay (17)	..	..	..	..	9	3	4	8	4	5	8	..	3	9	9	..
Sawyer (16)	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	7	3	3	6	3	4	2	..	..
Spencer (17)	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	9	3	2	9	6	2	6	5	9
Avery (16)	..	..	..	5	7	2	4	6	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nichols (16)	..	..	..	..	6	3	3	8	3	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Adams (16)	..	..	..	..	5	1	3	9	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Leroy (22)	..	..	..	..	8	3	4	7	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wettergreen (16)	..	..	..	..	6	2	2	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gard (15)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	7	6	6

Four miss-and-out matches were also shot; one each won by Gard and Brown, and two by Miskay.

Events 1, 4, 5, 8, 11, 14, 15 and 16 were known angles (the two last at 20yds. distance). No. 12, known reversed; 2, 6, 9 and 13 were unknown angles. Nos. 3, 7 and 10 at pairs. Nos. 8, 9 and 10 composed the prize score, in which the following totals were made: Brown 17, Miskay 17, Gordon 16, Howe 16, Mason 16, Sheffield 15, Spencer 14, Horace 14, Adams 13, Nichols 13, Sawyer 13, Leroy 12, Johns 12, Avery 11, and Williams 9.

Smith and Hanson shot two matches at 10 pairs. Scores: Hanson 16, Smith 14; Hanson 12, Smith 15.

Lynchburg Gun Club.

LYNCHBURG, Va., Jan. 28.—The following scores were made by members of the Lynchburg Gun Club at the regular weekly shoot held to day; all events being shot at unknown angles:

	No. 1.	No. 3.
Nelson	1001111110110000010011110—14	1110111110111010111110011—19
Dornin	1011011011100111111100111—18	1110110100111110111101111—19
Scott	0111100111111111011111100—19	1001010110011101111101111—17
Moorman	0110101101111011110111111—19	0111111001011101100110111—17
Stearns	1011110000110111111111110—16	1010111111100111100101110—17
	No. 2.	**No. 4.**
Nelson	1111110111011111111101111—22	1110110011111111110111111—21
Dornin	1110111110111111111111111—23	1111111111101101111111111—23
Scott	1110110101001101101110111—17	1011111111111111111011111—23
Moorman	0011111011111101011110100—17	0101011011111111001111111—19
Stearns	1110011110101111111110100—18	0101011101011011011011011—16
	No. 5.	**No. 6.**
Nelson	1011111111110110111111111—22	1111101111111111101110111—22
Dornin	1101111110101101111111111—21	1111111111101010111111111—22
Scott	1111100111011101111011111—20	0111110111111111111110111—22
Moorman	1111111111111111101101110—22	....
Stearns	1011001110110011110111111—18	1011101101111101111111111—21

F. M. D.

Team Shoot at Rochester.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Jan. 30.—Some great shooting was done on the grounds of the Rochester Rod and Gun Club in a team race between Hicks's team and Byer's team. Byer chose Stewart and Borst as his partners and said there weren't any three men in the club that could break as many targets out of 150 as his trio could. Hicks took him up and chose Meyers and Foley for his mates, the result showing that his judgment was correct. A record of 141 out of 150 will stand for some time upon our books. Mr. Byer has withdrawn into some secluded spot and has drawn the spot in after him. The scores were:

Hicks's Team.

```
Foley.......11111111011111101111111111111111111101111111111—47
Hicks.......11101111111100111111111111111111111111111111111—47
Meyers......11111111111111111111111111010111101111111111111—47—141
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Byer's Team.

```
Byer........11111111110111111111111111111111111111011101—47
Stewart.....11100110111111110111111111111001111111111101110—42
Borst.......11110010001110111101111111111101101110111110101—37—126
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DE WITT.

At Watson's Park.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 25.—The Garfield Gun Club held its monthly shoot here to-day, the attendance of members being very fair. In the club event at 20 live birds T. P. Hicks led with a straight score, which included thirteen one-barrel kills. O. von Lengerke and Dr. Shaw were close up with 19 to their credit. Scores:

T P Hicks	22211221111111221111—20	Patty	11222211100211111101—18
V Lengerke	12122222120222121212—19	W Palm	20202222002022012221—15
Dr Shaw	11221212202121212121—19	R Kuss	01202121100212112102—15
Dr Liddy	21122112221202222220—18	G H Brown	02100221222110001012—13
S Palmer	02121211112112121220—18	A Field	00110112200222000112—12

The following sweep at 7 birds, $3, was also shot to-day:

W Palmer	2111122—7	S Palmer	1011110—5
G Kleinman	2121121—7	B Barto	1120201—5
Goodrich	2112212—7	T P Hicks	0111110—5
Dr Frothingham	1212022—6	A Kleinman	1101120—5
E Bingham	2222220—6	Whitney	1021011—5
Cutler	1221202—6	Brown	2021021—5
Darlington	0211212—6	Glover	0001222—4
Nixon	1122202—6	Lee	2010012—4

In a miss-and-out shoot this afternoon the following scores were made: A. Kleinman 9, S. Palmer 8, G. Kleinman and Dr. Liddy 6, T. P. Hicks and Barto 3, Cutler 2, W. Palmer 1, Darlington 0.

Four target sweeps at 20 empires per man were also decided as follows:

Events:	1	2	3	4	Events:	1	2	3	4
Frothingham	15	12	..	..	Geo Kleinman	19	..	..	..
Cutler	15	14	..	..	Abe Kleinman	19	..	..	..
Glover	17	13	..	..	Shaw	13	16	14	13
Goodrich	12	13	..	..	Liddy	14	..	..	..
Bingham	16	17	..	..	Patty	13	..	..	..
Jordan	14	10	10	..	Kuss	16	15	16	12
Barker	13	15	18	13	Richards	12	..	..	..
Barto	14	..	..	..	Carraher	14	8	..	..

RAVELRIGG.

West Side Gun Club.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 22.—Below are the scores made by members of the West Side Gun Club at its grounds on New Year's Day. A handsome solid silver cup has been purchased by the club, to be competed for during the coming season, and on Jan. 1 was held the inaugural shoot. The cup will eventually go to the one who wins it oftenest during the season, and some interesting matches will occur, as the live-bird shots of the club are very evenly matched. On this occasion the scores were not up to the average in some cases, as the birds were an excellent lot. The weather was cloudy and cold, and the wind helped the pigeons more than they needed. Mr. Elliott was badly handicapped, as his eyes have been troubling him. All used E. C. and Smokeless cases. Mr. Hindmarsh shot a Remington hammerless, 3¼drs., 1¼ 7s and 1¼ 6s; Elliott a Smith Ejector, 3in. shell, 3¼drs., 1¼ 7s both barrels; Clark a Greener Pigeon hammerless, 3¼drs., 1¼ 7s; Biscoe, who had about the worst of the luck in drawing hard birds, shot a Smith hammerless, 3drs and 3¼drs., and 7s.; Montgomery used a Smith hammerless, 3¼drs., 1¼ 7s. The scores:

```
P J Hindmarsh.........10222•11•120222212112222—21
J C Elliott...........0020122111102021001100002—14
J C Clark.............1212211211122212•12•22111—23
L Biscoe..............1••1•111121 2•022002111111—18
H S Montgomery........2212010211121222121201010—20
```

The next match will occur on the second Friday in February, and the succeeding shoots will be held once each month.

C. H. MORTON.

Charles Forehand's Good Work.

WORCESTER, Mass., Jan. 28.—Charles E. Forehand, of the Forehand Arms Co. of this city, and A. W. Walls, ex-secretary of the Worcester Sportsmen's Club, met this afternoon before the traps in North Pond Park and shot a match at 100 targets from traps pulled in reverse order. Last week Walls shot a similar race with V. D. Keserson, defeating him. Forehand promptly challenged the winner, and to-day's race was the result of that challenge. The two men tied on 22 out of the first 25; in the second 25 Walls went ahead, leading by 2 breaks at the end of the 50th round, having broken a straight score of 25 to Forehand's 23. In the next 25 it was Forehand's turn to go ahead, the total for the third series showing 24 for him against 19 for Walls. That break lost Walls the race, and he permitted his opponent to go still further in front in the last series by losing 4 to 2. The full scores were: Forehand 92, Walls 87; both great scores, Forehand's total being equal to anything of the kind that has been done.

```
Chas E Forehand.......1101111111111111111011111011—22
                      1111111111111111100111111—23
                      1111111111111111011111111—24
                      0111111111111111111110111—23—92
A W Walls.............0111111111101111111011111—22
                      1111111111111111111111111—25
                      1111101110011111111011100—19
                      1111100111111101111011111—21—87
```

PUBLISHERS' DEPARTMENT.

An Ideal Trip.

DURING the month of February a more delightful trip cannot be made than to take one of the Vestibuled Limited trains of the Southern Railway, "Piedmont Air Line," and visit the glorious sunny South or the Pacific Coast. This popular route offers to the tourist, pleasure-seeker and business man a *most attractive* schedule and service.

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NEW ORLEANS.

Where could you find a more delightful place to visit during Mardi Gras, which takes place Feb. 15? The Carnival this year will eclipse anything heretofore held in the Crescent City. The Southern Railway operates the Washington and Southwestern Vestibuled Limited, composed of vestibule coach, dining and sleeping cars, between New York and New Orleans. For the Carnival Special low rates will be made, so as to enable all to attend.—*Adv.*

Yacht Calendar.

EDWARD SMITH & Co., New York, famous for spar and other varnishes, issue a calendar for 1896 which is embellished with a very spirited picture of the yacht Defender.

Bicycles.

THE Bridgeport Gun Implement Company, 313 Broadway, New York, in addition to its regular catalogue, publishes a handsome little book called "Everything for the Bicycle."

Changes.

THE Scovill & Adams Company, dealers in photographic materials, have moved into a handsome new building, 60 and 62 East Eleventh street, New York. This building is entirely devoted to the interests of the various departments of the company, and is a model photographic supply house in arrangement and appointments.

Mr. W. I. Lincoln Adams has succeeded the late Washington Irving Adams to the presidency of the company.

Fishing and Shooting.

JUDGING from the notes printed in the *Hotel Gossip*, a little newspaper published at the Hotel Punta Gorda, Punta Gorda, Fla., the fishing and shooting in that neighborhood is exceptionally good just now. Deer, turkeys, ducks, quail, tarpon and sea trout figure in the report.

How to Shoot a Revolver.

THE *Army and Navy Register*, of Washington, D. C., sends us a little pamphlet entitled "How to Shoot a Revolver," by Maj. William P. Hall, Assistant Adjutant-General U. S. Army. Copies may be procured on receipt of the price, 50 cents.